



BOARD OF GOVERNORS – OPEN SESSION
Approved Minutes

Monday, May 30, 2022
1:00 p.m., videoconference

- Present:** K. Schlachter (Chair), K. Bhatt, R. Casson, C. Coburn, J. Elliott, D. Gallimore, D. Gonci, K. Gunn, D. Johnson, H. Labuhn, M. Mahon, J. Merkl, K. Philipp, K. Reid, J. Sheriff, C. Skiba, S. Stocker, C. Weaselhead, T. Whitehead, L. Zink
- Regrets:** T. Legge
- Other:** J. Gallais, K. Greenwood, V. Grisack, M. Helstein, D. McMartin, E. Okine, N. Walker, S. Weinkauff, R. Westlund, M. Whipple, M. Serebryansky

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 observed for Gulden Ozcan, a faculty member in the Department of Sociology who passed away May 11, 2022.

The Chair introduced the new students K. Bhatt and C. Skiba. K. Schlachter acknowledged the board members who are completing their terms: J. Sheriff, J. Elliott, S. Stocker, H. Labuhn, K. Schlachter.

L. Zink introduced the presentation from a fellow graduate student, D. Robinson, Neuroscience, placed second in the 3MT presentation. 2nd year of masters. Dementia - Alzheimer's research and cannabis research.

1. CONSENT AGENDA
APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the May 30, 2022 Open Agenda
1.2. Approval of the April 14, 2022 Open Minutes

MOTION: opn.2022.05.01

Coburn/Zink

That the Board of Governors approve the May 30, 2022 Consent Agenda.

Motion: Carried

2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

K. Schlachter reported

- Last meeting of chairing the board. Will mention more in the closed session

- Received signed IMA from the government.
- Looking forward to Convocation ceremonies. He has missed it over the last couple of years.

3. **PRESIDENT REMARKS**

M. Mahon reported:

- He thanked everyone for their contributions to the Board and Thanks to K. Schlachter for being chair. The commitment for the board meetings, etc. are appreciated
- Labour Relations – continued work on Engagement Plan
- GFC – budget is noted within the agenda materials GFC and SPC robust conversation on the budget. The President wanted to acknowledge the significant input that was received from these two groups.
- Bursary in honour of Bob McKay – Organizers hope to raise \$25,000, which would fund a minimum student award of \$1,000 annually. Once fundraising is complete, the Bob McKay Endowed Memorial Bursary will be established. Those who want to contribute to the bursary can do so online at Bob McKay Endowed Memorial Bursary.
- Celebrating 20 years of Destination Exploration – 20 years of community engagement with hands on learning, including Let’s Talk Science program. This is a wonderful outreach program that focuses on young kids encouraging them to post secondary education.
- Navigator Team Naming Ceremony – EleV Partnership with Blackfoot Confederacy, U of L, and MCF hired 6 individuals called Navigators – one each Educational and one Employment in each of Piikani, Siksika and Kainai; Elder Francis First Charger bestowed the name the “Going All Out Society”.
- Interim Dean – Health Sciences - Dr. Chris Hosgood asked to support the transition to a new dean.
- June 1, 2, 3 Convocation; June 1 Let There Be Light Night; June 2nd Chancellor’s Dinner – The President is very excited to have 6 ceremonies at convocation. This will be exciting to have all the grad affected by covid able to cross the stage.

4. **CHANCELLOR REPORT**

C. Weaselhead highlighted:

- Thanks to the President for his report
- Acknowledge Chair and outgoing members of the board. He has enjoyed working with everyone.
- Looking forward to convocation ceremonies.
- Indirect activities with the federal government – working with chiefs in treaty 6, 7, 8 We want to move students through k-12 and then post secondary. Engage the tribe to work with the UofL.

5. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

5.1. 2021-22 Financial Statements

MOTION:

opn.2022.05.02

Phillip/Zink

That the Board of Governors approve the 2021 – 22 Financial Statements.

Motion: Carried

K. Phillip turned it over to C. Takeyasu who gave an overview of what is included in the package. Highlighting that there was a difference of opinion on recording the \$10 million endowment funds. Labour disruption impacts affected by refunds/tuition credit/housing, etc. heating and cooling plant. Change in investment managers so there is a surplus of \$22 million which comes off and then gets reflected as a reinvestment. Amortization change in the review of useful life of exterior of our buildings. K. Phillip thanked N. Walker, C. Takeyasu and their team to get the statements completed in time for us to review them today.

There was a short discussion on what tax forms will be issued to the students. C. Takeyasu stated that they are looking at it and once the details are finalized, the students will receive a T4A and we will communicate that to the students as this is a change in that everyone will get one.

5.2. 2022-23 Budget

MOTION: opn.2022.05.03
Gallimore/Gunn

That the Board of Governors approve the 2022/23 budget and approve in principle the 2023/24 and 2024/25 budgets.

Motion: Carried

D. Gallimore stated that there was extensive consultations on the budget. He then passed it on to N. Walker who thanked C. Takeyasu and her team for the budget plan. C. Takeyasu gave a brief overview of the budget including a timeline of the process. She stressed that it is not sustainable to continue to use one-time funds to cover the budget. Because of the reductions, we are back to 2010-11 funding level for operating grant, 2014-15 for tuition and fees.

The committee entered a robust conversation on the long-term investment for the \$10 million endowment, the changes that we have to make for find more savings and what will happen if we don't identify further savings in the budget. We are now at a point where we have to transform as an institution.

The President added that we have idled the faculty structures but there is heavy lifting ahead. It is critical that we get back to student numbers that we had but the reduction side is important but there are going to have to be decisions made. It will be difficult. E. Okine commented that there is a creativity here at the UofL to come up with solutions for savings and revenue.

We have been affected due to the pandemic especially as a destination university and the labour disruption. Schools like ours have been more impacted than urban schools. We have been more reliant on domestic tuition than other schools. International students strategy needs to be addressed. We have received a lot of pushback on ideas, but the longer we wait to embrace change, we will lose more shares in the market because we are all after the same

pot of students. M. Mahon noted that we have a strategic plan for internationalization. A conversation on the demographics of young indigenous students followed with the chancellor stating that we are only funding 50% of the students that apply. There are another 8-10,000 students that we are not reaching. The population is underserved. Only 50% from Kainai are able to go to school. There is lobbying taking place to change the Postsecondary cap that the federal government has had in place since the 1990s. The MC initiative is part of the lobby.

M. Mahon noted that on page 6 of 226 – he wanted to recognize the input that GFC and SPC put in. The \$10 million endowment has been suggested that we should do it at a much slower rate. The students are supportive of this initiative and want to move as quickly as possible.

5.3. 2021-22 Annual Report

MOTION: opn.2022.05.04

Gallimore/Reid

That the Board of Governors approve the 2021 – 2022 Annual Report.

Motion: Carried

N. Walker reported that this is a requirement from the provincial government. We are doing a different format so many thanks to communications for their help. The Financial Statements will be attached to the report. The auditors need to review this before it goes to the government.

There was some discussion regarding the parkade. We have talked about this for years but this project will have to be self-funded as the government will not provide funds. The President stated that these dates are aspirational in case there is a sudden availability of capital funding such as what happened with the heating and cooling plant.

5.4. Greek Life Organization

MOTION: opn.2022.05.05

Labuhn/Johnson

The Board of Governors of the University of Lethbridge endorses, supports, and recognizes the University of Lethbridge Students Union's ("ULSU") de-ratification of all Greek Life Organizations.

On the basis of the third-party investigation (ACTivate HR) report dated August 20, 2021, conducted jointly by the ULSU and the University of Lethbridge and in conjunction with the University of Lethbridge commitment to keeping a safe campus, the University of Lethbridge refuses to recognize or sanction any Greek Life Organizations operations on any University of Lethbridge campus or from using or attempting to use the name or a reference

to the University of Lethbridge whatsoever. The Board strongly recommends that should a future Board wish to overturn this motion that it be done so on at least a 75% majority and in consultation with a member or members of the joint committee (ULSU, UofL Student Affairs, and UofL Administration) who oversaw the investigation.

Motion: Carried

T. Whitehead reported that at the last board meeting we created a working group and thanked the people that worked on this motion. We are the first institution if this motion passes to endorse a decision by the student's union.

5.5. Progress & Achievement Report 2021-2022 UofL Strategic Plan

MOTION: opn.2022.05.06

Stocker/Casson

That the Board of Governors endorse the attached Progress and Achievement Report 2021-2022, UofL Strategic Plan.

Motion: Carried

This report comes to the board annually. Some elements of this plan are used publicly. Some of the graphics need a bit of cleaning up. R. Westlund responded that when the documents are released, these issues will be tidied up and he thanked members for their input.

5.6. Position Description: Chair of the Board

MOTION: opn.2022.05.07

Stocker/Gunn

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Position Description: Chair of the Board, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

Changes are clean up. Also with an impending change in the chair, we need to update the position description.

5.7. Board of Governors Bylaws (2/3 approval)

MOTION: opn.2022.05.08

Stocker/Whitehead

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Bylaws of the Board of Governors, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

In addition to clean up, a review was done. Thanks to C. Coburn for his assistance on the review.

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1. 2021-22 Operating Surplus Budget Brief

D. Gallimore stated that this is showing an operating surplus due to the change in investment managers. N. Walker explained the difference between one time money and continuing. The years that we have large surpluses are years we have had changes in investment managers. This is how accounting standards require us to present it. A FAQ was discussed to help explain the numbers as this has been the most difficult challenge to explain. Any help the board can give in helping people understand the numbers would be appreciated.

6.2. Labour Disruption Financial Update

D. Gallimore commented that this is an update for the board on the various components related to the disruption. N. Walker stated that it is basically a break even with the savings and the tuition credit offered to the students.

6.3. Alberta at Works – Targeted Enrolment Expansion Grant

D. Gallimore explained that this is an item going in the correct direction. N. Walker commented that the government gave \$171 million for new programs. We submitted and received money for 4/7 programs but the funding is only for 3 years. C. Takeyasu stated that two of the programs are collaborative so we are still working out the details on the sharing of the funding. E. Okine commented that the Master in Counselling Psychology was not funded. This is a program where we could move it forward as we have more applications than seats.

6.4. Graduate Student Association Financial Update

D. Gallimore introduced the financial statements and the current statements for 2021-22 will be available fairly soon. The GSA was commended for getting the outstanding statements taken care of.

7. REPORTS

7.1. Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

E. Okine highlighted that the enrolment summary is projected to be yellow in the fall. Kudos to K. Massey in terms of the engagement plan for the students and the communication team. We are hopefully able to move from yellow to green.

7.2. Advancement

K. Greenwood commented in the package that highlights some of the key events that are occurring across campus. Let there be light night after the 2020-2021 convocation. This will be in person. The chancellor's dinner will be the next night.

R. Westlund had nothing further to add to his report.

7.3. Vice-President (Finance & Administration)

N. Walker noted that even though there has been heavy lifting for budget, financial services has tried to streamline processes and also get easier access to resources.

7.4. Vice-President (Research)

D. McMartin shared that we hosted CIHR president. We will be hosting senior leaders of Alberta Innovates and the funding opportunities that exist in the province. Many tours have taken place in the Science Commons in the last while. We build key relationships with accelerators who are excited about the work that is taking place here such as the Chamber. We continue to promote our presence in local groups. Many new exciting large grants have been awarded such as C. Coburn who received a large MITACS grant to work at Head Smashed In, Beekeeper research dollars for Dr Shelley Hoover with \$100,000 more for her research.

7.5. Board Member Reports

GSA – They have a full GSA Executive – some that are just starting their programs.

ULSU – the terms started May 1st and also have full Executive. Thank you for continued support for the motion of the Greek Life.

J. Gallais – the Board won the pass the hat fundraiser challenge at Christmas. The ULSU had pins made and these will be available for you.

J. Elliot stated that K. Greenwood did a great job highlighting the events coming up this week.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2022.05.09

Reid/Coburn

*That the Board of Governors Open Session meeting of May 30, 2022
be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried