



BOARD OF GOVERNORS – OPEN SESSION

Approved Minutes

Thursday, February 15, 2024

1:00 p.m., W646

Present: D. Gallimore (Chair), T. Boulet, B. Burton (virtually), R. Casson, B. Chapman, C. Coburn, S. Davis, T. Fox, D. Gonci (virtually), D. Jayas, M. Lockett, D. McKenna, R. Patel (virtually), K. Philipp, K. Reid, J. Reiter, M. Thomas, N. Van Mulligen, T. Whitehead

Regrets: A. Dymond, D. Johnson

Other: J. Gallais, K. Greenwood, V. Grisack, M. Helstein, C. Hosgood, D. McMartin, N. Walker, R. Westlund, M. Whipple, J. Westers, C. Kanashiro

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 Indigenous Peoples who have helped shape and continue to strengthen our University community.

A moment of silence was observed for Grant Pisko, a former board member who served on the board.

The chair welcomed new members - Terri-Lyn Fox, Bill Chapman, and Monica Lockett as new board members. They were each given a pin and a portfolio. Darcy Gonci was welcomed back for a second term Dean acknowledged that Nicole Bach service as her term is completed.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL

1.1. Approval of the February 15, 2024 Open Agenda

1.2. Approval of the December 7, 2023 Open Minutes

MOTION: opn.2024.02.01

Coburn/Casson

That the Board of Governors approve the February 15, 2024 Consent Agenda with amendment to External Relations report.

Motion: Carried

2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

D. Gallimore commented that he will discuss his report in the closed session.

3. PRESIDENT REMARKS

D. Jayas highlighted from his attached report:

- The strategic planning sessions are going well. There are sessions planned with alumni in Lethbridge, Calgary and Vancouver. As well as a community session in Lethbridge.
- Continues to visit various departments in the faculties with Provost, M. Helstein. They are going quite well with open and frank discussions.
- The President was asked about a discussion at a chamber event. It was a good presentation with a focus on the electric grid transformation.

4. CHANCELLOR REMARKS

T. Whitehead reported:

- This evening there is a fundraising concert for the food banks in town, including our UofL Students' Union foodbank.

5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1. 2024-25 Interim Budget

MOTION: opn.2024.02.02
Philipp/Coburn

That the Board of Governors the approve of the 2024-2025 Interim Budget.

Motion: Carried (abstention – M. Thomas)

K. Philipp turned the discussion over to N. Walker who reported that the budget has to be approved for April 1st so we need board approval for an interim budget to take care of expenses until we can complete the full budget after the provincial budget comes down. There is no meeting in March so we need this approved in the interim. A complete budget will come back in April.

5.2. Travel and Business Expense Policy & Procedures

MOTION: opn.2024.02.03
Philipp/Jayas

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Travel and Business Expense Policy and Procedure, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

There were some changes under RABBCA for designated senior executive so we needed to make some changes now that it has been repealed. There was some clarification for some items such as prior approval for travel over \$10,000 dollars. It was asked about stated limits and if the numbers for 2023 are based on RABBCA. N. Walker responded that the numbers are updated from time to time and are good as long as we don't go over the government rate. There were some differences between employee groups and senior administration and we have made them the same.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

M. Helstein let the report stand but highlighted the pieces around the enrolment report. We have moved through add drop and credit hours are above the projections. There will be a more fulsome discussion in the closed session. The student representatives commended the work done for the students. There was a conversation surrounding the trend of decreasing enrolment of indigenous students. Discussion occurred on great partnership with Red Crow Community College and a conversation regarding application fees and tuition deposit. It was noted challenges are in some declining bursaries and limited access. There was further discussion on the increase in student numbers at the Calgary campus. Some of this is related to an increase in international students as well as some university diploma programs that are shorter duration credentials. Domestic enrolment is down but new high school student numbers are increasing. There was a short discussion on the various reports contained in the Provost's report and the number of students that participated in the StartSmart program. M. Helstein noted that there were 1856 students in the first cohort which we were pleased with the uptake.

6.2. External Relations, Communications, Marketing & Govt. Relations

K. Greenwood highlighted a listing of events that have occurred or will be upcoming including public professor talks as well as the donor celebration on March 21st. She encouraged all to attend.

R. Westlund had nothing to add. The reports included hyperlinks to the great work of his team and he encouraged the members to try them out.

6.3. Vice-President (Finance & Administration)

N. Walker noted that a lot of great work is coming out of HR such as alternative work arrangements and respect in the workplace training. She is pleased with the progress.

6.4. Vice-President (Research)

D. McMartin gave an overview and highlighted changes in the grant program and there are a few unintended changes that will need to be addressed. They will be giving some of this information on a quarterly report. There are four departments in the university that funds research. They are trying to assist other areas to increase their research.

6.5. Board member reports

- M. Thomas presented the results of the recent Pass the Hat Campaign. They raised over \$7000 for the food bank. The Board won the competition over the Senate and the SU president presented a trophy to the board chair. The Chancellor will do some push-ups between the sessions today! Congratulations to the ULSU foodbank.
- J. Reiter announced that the Meeting of the Minds conference is coming up on March 23rd. This is their largest symposium that they hold on campus. He invited members to attend or to help with judging as they are looking for volunteers. Traditionally it has been more science based so they are expanding the scope of the conference to make it more multidisciplinary.
- B. Chapman brought greetings from Lawrence Barany whose family recently received an award for the farm family from the Calgary Stampede.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2024.02.04

Thomas/Reiter

*That the Board of Governors Open Session meeting of
February 15, 2024 be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried