



## BOARD OF GOVERNORS – OPEN SESSION

### Approved Minutes

**Thursday, October 17, 2013**

**1:00 p.m. Water Building, Lethbridge Campus**

- Present:** G. Jong (Chair), G. Adamson, A. Amelinckx, J. Berezan, R. Corbiere, P. Forrest (phone), M. Gray, C. Hollingsworth, B. Kunz, M. Mahon, F. Naeem, K. Nugent, R. Scrimshaw, M. Smith, S. Talbot
- Regrets:** J. Copeland, L. Karbashewski, S. McClellan, T. Waters, A. Hakin, N. Walker
- Other:** J. Black (recording secretary), B. Boudreau, L. Corbiere, C. Horbachewski, M. Sawa, D. Spoulos, S. Sproule, D. Weeks, R. Westlund,

Prior to the commencement of the Open Session meeting, D. Weeks Vice-President (Research) introduced Dr. Stewart Rood, Board of Governors Research Chair in Environmental Science who gave a presentation on ongoing research in the water building

The Board Chair also welcomed Grant Adamson an incoming board member, and new Alumni Association president and thank you was given to K. Nugent as an outgoing board member for his service to the University of Lethbridge.

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## 1. CONSENT AGENDA

### APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the October 17, 2013 Open Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the June 13, 2013 Open Minutes

MOTION: opn.2013.10.01

Berezan/Talbot

*That the Board of Governors approve the October 17, 2013 Consent Agenda with the revision to have items 5.1 and 5.2 be brought forth by J. Berezan.*

Motion: Carried

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## 2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

G. Jong reported on the following activities:

- He attended the John Gill Memorial and Calgary Alumni Golf Tournament, he had a phone meeting for Canadian School of Energy and Environment (CSEE), he had a one-on-one lunch meeting with the Deputy Premier and Minister of Enterprise and Advanced Education, T. Lukaszuk, regarding where the UofL is going, budget issues and morale, he attended a thank you BBQ for those involved in our flood response,

he golfed with MLA, Greg Weadick, at his own expense, he also hosted a group from the University at his Waterton cottage this summer.

- The UofL hosted the Premier on campus and she articulated support for our destination project.
- He attended the Grand Opening of Mt. Blakiston our new student residences.
- Hokkai-Gakuen University – he was in Japan from September 13-24 and met the chairman for the first time, and was able to reinforce our agreements.
- A question arose on target enrolment initiatives, and the Minister wants to see everyone be more active where enrolment will result in jobs. We have identified nursing and First Nations health sciences and these are true to our Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP).

### **3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

M. Mahon reported on:

- Floods- repairs from our own flood damage are almost 90% complete, and there were some challenges, so thank you was given to those who worked hard in trying not to affecting students. We also helped house and feed some of the High River flood evacuees and have submitted a \$½ million bill for helping with that.
- Enrolment – is stable at 8,311 students. There are some important positives on this front and in terms of trends seen: 11% increase in overall high school students, increase in local high school students, increase in our Calgary numbers, 16.4% graduate student increase and 8.1% in international students.
- Budget - will be discussed later in the agenda. Much work has been done and there is much to do moving forward.
- Events: G. Jong noted many, also first concert and open house at the Coutts Centre was very successful, Chamber had an Economic Development strategy session on promoting Lethbridge, the Deputy Premier and Minister of Enterprise and Advanced Education, T. Lukaszuk, was here to name Dr. HJ Wieden as the Innovates Centre of Research Excellence (iCORE) Chair of Bioengineering from Alberta Innovates-Technology Futures (AITF), another successful iGem competition in winning the North American competition. Congratulations were also given to the following faculty members for being recognized with significant awards in their respective areas: Dr. Bruce McNaughton – 20113 Gill Award, Bryan Kolb – CAFA Distinguished Academic Award for 2013, and Bryan Brooks our recently appointed Fulbright Canada Visiting Research Chair.
- Governor of Montana – he had lunch with him and they spoke on greater linkages between our universities.
- Senate – The Senate meeting was last weekend, and they welcomed new members to Senate. This Saturday is Convocation and we are awarding an Honorary Degree to Dr. Gary Bowie and our Alumnus of the Year recipient will be Dr. Robert Morrison. There will also be changes to the Senate honorary degree process to amalgamate the GFC and Senate process and to maximize nominations.
- Open House – there was an Open House last Saturday as well. It was successful and many individuals from Calgary attended.
- Volunteer Lethbridge – They are partnering with the UofL in the Penny Building and should be moved in there in November.

- GFC – At the last meeting they passed the Blackfoot and First Nations Metis and Inuit Protocol Handbook document. It is a good initiative and puts in place a protocol related to events on campus. It mostly puts on paper what we are already doing.
- Fiat Lux Address – This happened last week and was an opportunity to provide an update on the budget, talk about our continued successes and look toward the future.
- Strategic Plan – The draft was moved from the committee back into the community for final comments. The draft will go to GFC in November and December and then approval in December by the Board.
- Deputy Premier and Minister of Enterprise and Advanced Education, T. Lukaszuk they met yesterday and discussed research institutes and it is still a work in progress and much work remains.
- Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) – in November he will attend a meeting of AUCC in Ottawa of university presidents, he also will be taking over as chair of western Canadian president's (COWCUPS).
- A question arose and discussion occurred on enrolment in the northern campuses. It was also reported that we are losing our Registrar to York University and that is unfortunate as he has done great work.

#### 4. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

S. McClellan sent regrets.

#### 5. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

##### 5.1. 2013-14 Revised Budget

MOTION: opn.2013.10.02

Berezan/Scrimshaw

*That the Board of Governors approve the attached 2013-2014 revised operating budget.*

Motion: Carried

J. Berezan indicated that this is an ongoing process and in 2015-16 we will be balanced. M. Mahon reported that there was an all-day retreat with senior leaders to receive the nine reports from the sub-committees and that activity will transition into the budget advisory committee to see what can be acted on immediately and what will take a while longer. Much is still going on to balance in 2014-15 as we want to be a year ahead.

##### 5.2. 2014-15 Fees and Rates

MOTION: opn.2013.10.03

Berezan/Smith

*That the Board of Governors approve the proposed fees and rates for 2014-2015, with the fees and rates for 2015-16 to 2017-18 approved in principle.*

Motion: Carried  
(3 opposed: S. Talbot, C. Hollingsworth, F. Naeem)

M. Sawa, Manager of Budget and Planning did a presentation on the proposed fees and rates for 2014-15. There was an amendment to the presentation only handed out. A question arose on the cost of the student housing fees and it being represented by lowest cost and not average cost. A question also arose about interdepartmental charges.

It was stated that the University of Lethbridge Students' Union (ULSU) is against fee increases above consumer price index (CPI). Significant discussion occurred about the student services fee specifically, the prior increases to it and what the costs actually mean to the students. The students would rather see decreases to services instead of fees being increased again. In prior increases, the concern by the students has been noted as they fear every year it will increase above CPI. In the meetings with the students there were some negotiations and changes to the fees, but the students are not comfortable with this fee and they cannot support it. Discussion occurred around the needs of the university to be able to plan and budget, and the consequences of a user-pay student services system.

MOTION TO POSTPONE:            opn.2013.10.04

Talbot/Hollingsworth

*That the Board of Governors postpone the fee decision until March 2013 following the presentation of the budget by the Government.*

Motion: Defeated (3 in favour)

The postponement was requested, because if this is done the students will then know this is only being considered as a last resort.

### 5.3. Board of Governors Teaching Chair – Policy Revisions

MOTION:                            opn.2013.10.05

Smith/Kunz

*That the Board of Governors approve the revisions to the Board of Governors Teaching Chairs policy, effective immediately.*

Motion:            Carried

M. Smith reported that they are minor changes for clarity and consistency.

#### 5.4. Letter of Expectation

MOTION: opn.2013.10.06

Smith/Amelinckx

*That the Board of Governors approve the Letter of Expectation between the Minister of Alberta Enterprise and Advanced Education (as representative of the Government of Alberta) and the Board of Governors of the University of Lethbridge (as representative of the University of Lethbridge).*

Motion: Carried

M. Mahon provided a background to the letter of expectation from when it was first introduced in the Spring and how it transitioned to the four part process: system element, sector outcomes, institutional outcomes and then government responsibilities. The government requested they have an opportunity to review the draft and that was provided to them in September prior to it going to GFC. The only comment received was that the appendixes should be removed for consistency. The letter was vetted through GFC and Deans' Council last week. Good discussion occurred at GFC about the letter, and suggestions within the governmental responsibilities sections were recommended to express adequate funding is required and the government needing to be responsible for fostering a post-secondary system that will thrive. Discussion occurred and the Board decided to support GFC by providing these recommendations to Enterprise and Advanced Education in the cover letter on the letter of expectation for their consideration. It was recognized that the Ministry may not change their section this year, but maybe they will make the changes to it for next year.

MOTION TO AMMEND: opn.2013.10.07

Talbot/Berezan

*That the motion indicate the letter is a draft.*

Motion: Withdrawn

Discussion occurred and any changes that are made to the letter would be taken back to the Board of Governors.

## 6. REPORTS

### 6.1 Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

B. Boudreau, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Academic) had no additional comments from the submitted report.

#### 6.2 Vice-President (Advancement)

C. Horbachewski had nothing to add to his submitted report.

#### 6.3 Vice-President (Finance & Administration)

D. Spoulos, Associate Vice-President (Finance) had nothing to add to the submitted report.

#### 6.4 Vice-President (Research)

D. Weeks did an update on his presentation from May's Board of Governor's meeting. He highlighted some of the risks in research, funding cycles, and centres and institutes. Some exciting initiatives were explained that are ongoing in other institutions to assist innovative and new companies. We were also excited to be ranked third this year by Research Infosource even amidst an Alberta decline in provincial research funding.

#### 6.5 Board Member Reports

S. Talbot reported that the students are meeting with the Deputy Premier and Minister of Enterprise and Advanced Education, T. Lukaszuk on Monday so if anyone had any questions or comments to pass along to let her know. She also spoke on the lobby groups work and different initiatives and funding for the food bank.

F. Naeem indicated they are doing a referendum on their fee increases and if successful it will result in them being able to hire an administrative person.

### 7. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: opn.2013.10.08

Gray/Talbot

*That the Board of Governors open session meeting of October 17, 2013 be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried