

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION MEETING
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
HELD THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2009 AT 1:30 P.M.
IN THE BOARD ROOM (W646)

Present: Robert Turner (Chair), Leah Fowler (by phone), Don Chandler, Jeremy Girard, Jenn Prosser, Richard Querel, Jeremiah Merkl, James Berezan, Doug McArthur, Myles Bourke, Art Bonertz, Karen Bartsch, Gordon Jong, Blaine Kunz, Rita Law (Secretary)

Regrets: Bill Cade, Evelyn Good Striker, Kevin Nugent, Richard Davidson, Heidi MacDonald, Dean Setoguchi

Others: Andrew Hakin, Vice-President (Academic) and Provost
Dan Weeks, Vice-President (Research)
Karen Clearwater, Associate Vice-President (Financial Planning)
Richard Westlund, Director, Government Relations

1. CONSENT AGENDA

1.1 Approval of the November 12, 2009 Open Session Agenda

1.2 Approval of the October 15, 2009 Open Session Minutes

MOTION: opn.2009.11.01

Jong/Berezan

That the Consent Agenda of the November 12, 2009 Open Session meeting of The University of Lethbridge Board of Governors be approved.

Motion: Carried

2. BOARD MEMBER EDUCATION

2.1 Research Topics

Vice-President (Research) Dr. Dan Weeks was introduced by Dr. Andrew Hakin. Dr. Weeks gave an informative presentation on changes and amalgamations of the provincial research funding agencies as provided for in the Alberta Research and Innovation Roles and Mandates Framework. The PowerPoint presentation is filed with these minutes. He indicated that the U of L does not currently have a strategic research plan and this new structure will facilitate the development of a Research Plan. The various research funding agencies have been told to carry on with their commitments but not enter into new commitments. However, just yesterday, the University of Calgary announced Biovantage, an interdisciplinary

venture that has a commitment from Alberta Ingenuity in partnership with Bose and Western Economic Diversification (WED). Government seems to be cognizant of the need for transition and wants to see how the process works in developing research priorities. The changes represent an important restructuring of the post-secondary sector reporting model. Business Plans were once stand-alone documents, then the Access Plan was implemented and now work is underway to implement the Research Plan. The Research Plan and Access Plan will inform the Business Plan. Dr. Weeks' expressed the view that at the heart of this is a well-developed liberal arts education. The challenge will be to keep promoting that message. Dr. Weeks was optimistic that the U of L is in a better position to respond to the changes than the other two residential universities. It was clarified that research funding will be as a result of submissions and will be separate from operational grant funding.

Andrew Hakin remarked that these changes mark an increased level of accountability for the entire post-secondary system, as earlier identified in the Roles and Mandates Policy Framework.

Dan Weeks spoke of reorganization within Research Services. He has considered the most recent Research Services review and had decided to not implement some of the recommendations from that review, due to current fiscal circumstances. He is working with Dean of Arts and Science Chris Nicol to do some restructuring he believes will provide better service and respond to some of the review recommendations.

3. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

3.1 Pronghorn Women's Rugby

The Board Chair reported that the University of Lethbridge Pronghorn Women's Rugby team is the National Champion, for the third year in a row.

3.2 Convocation

Bob Turner said that the October 15 Convocation ceremony went smoothly and credited the hard work and organization of those in the Registrar's Office for the successful event.

3.3 25th Anniversary of Graduate Studies

The School of Graduate Studies had a dinner October 17 to celebrate their 25th Anniversary.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President's report, which was provided with the Agenda, was received for information.

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were no items for information.

6. VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC) & PROVOST

The Vice-President (Academic) & Provost's written report was received for information. Dr. Hakin added that he moderated a function November 11 that was a marvellous evening of song, poetry and prayer from different faiths on the theme of remembrance, peace, diversity and respect. Dr. Janet Youngdahl from the Department of Music in the Faculty of Fine Arts was the coordinator.

7. VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION)

The written report that was included with the Agenda materials was received for information.

7.1 Sustainability Report

Bob Turner commented that there will be a report at each Board meeting on sustainability from the Vice-President (Finance and Administration), on areas of sustainability including economic, environment and social responsibility. The U of L is at the stage in governance where an inventory is being taken of what the U of L currently does under each of those categories as it relates to sustainability. The Strategic Plan includes sustainability as one of the objectives. Mr. Turner felt the Board will be pleasantly surprised by the initiatives already undertaken by the University. This will eventually be publicly reported. The written report was received for information.

8. VICE-PRESIDENT (ADVANCEMENT)

The written report was received for information. Chris Horbachewski corrected that the CGA gift was to the University of Lethbridge, not the University of Alberta as shown on page two of the report.

9. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

The Chancellor's report, which was included in the Agenda, was received for information.

10. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Jeremy Girard asked for Board Member support for his participation in a November 27 event that will see him jumping in a pool of frigid water as a fundraiser for the United Way. This event will also be for points for the U of L JDC West team. JDC is a student business games that is held annually across the country. This marks the fifth year the U of L has had a team in the competition.

Richard Westlund will be participating on behalf of the University of Lethbridge in the Canadian Cancer Society's Jail 'n Bail.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2009.11.02

Prosser/ MacArthur

That the Open Session of the November 12, 2009 University of Lethbridge Board of Governors meeting be adjourned.

Motion: Carried