



THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE SENATE
Approved Minutes

Friday, December 4, 2015
1:30 PM in AH100, Anderson Hall

- Present:** J. Varzari (Chair), G. Abela, D. Adams, F. Bradley, V. Brickley, S. Brodrick, K. Brown, M. Clewes, S. Davis, M. Dececco-Kolebaba, H. Doeve, M. Gabriel, M. Gale, B. Galts, C. Goodreau (phone), A. Hakin, S. Hlady, R. Hood, C. Horbachewski, K. Johnson, C. Loewen, S. Malec, M. Mazerolle, R. McKay, C. Northcott, W. Osborn, V. Papworth, M. Persinger, K. Petersen, S. Pinder, B. Scott, L. Sherwood, C. Starzyk-Frey, J. Tailfeathers, B. Tait, H. Tams, J. VandenHoek, G. Vardazaryan, P. Visentin, N. Walker, K. Wasiak, M. Whipple
- Regrets:** J. Baranec, P. Bohnert, S. Chadsey, C. Cooper, A. Follinglo, K. Gunn, G. Knitel, R. Kobbert, B. Lanz, B. Lyons, M. Mahon, T. Page, T. Perlich, R. Pogorzelski, T. Rollingson, T. Schmidt, J. Seaman, A. Siaroff
- Others:** S. Olson

Prior to the start of the meeting, K. McInnes, Executive Director, gave an update on Sport & Recreation Services and J. Doan, Associate Professor of Kinesiology spoke on his research on Parkinson's Disease.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: sen.2015.12.01

Malec/Persinger

That the agenda for the meeting of December 4, 2015 be approved as amended.

Motion: Carried

B. Galts added Item for action Honorary Degree Procedures, an *in-camera* discussion, and Item for Action Honorary Degree Special Case.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: sen.2015.12.02

Sherwood/Northcott

That the minutes of the meeting of October 3, 2015 be approved.

Motion: Carried

3. REPORTS

3.1 Chancellor

J. Varzari reported that she attended:

- Friends of Health Sciences Dinner on October 15, and introduced the honourees Dr. Susan Christenson and Dr. Ester Tailfeathers, who have shown exemplary leadership in mobilizing their community to respond to the fentanyl crisis.

- October 16 concert honouring the work of Alumnus of the Year Andrew Staniland
- Fall Convocation on October 17 in which over 257 students graduated. Honorary degrees were conferred upon Victor Buffalo and Cor Van Raay.
- Dedication of the student lounge in Native American Studies in honour of Narcisse Blood
- Senate committee meetings on November 18
- A lecture by Associate Professor of Kinesiology Jennifer Copeland, as part of the PUBLIC Professor series, at City Hall on November 26.
- Convocation Thank You lunch on November 27, which was a great way to acknowledge the contributions of those from across campus to put on spring and fall Convocation.

3.2 President & Vice-Chancellor

M. Mahon sent his regrets as he is the Chair of the Council of Western Canadian University Presidents and their conference happens to be concluding in Victoria today. On his behalf, A. Hakin reported:

- University is participating in a city-wide steering committee to welcome Syrian Refugees to our community. We also have an active group on campus fundraising to privately sponsor a family in the new year
- Rankings:
 - Maclean's – maintain top three ranking (of 19), maintained or improved in 9/12 indicators, greatest gain was in student services moving three spots to second position, moved two spots in funding for student scholarships and bursaries, one spot ahead in reputation to third overall
 - Research Infosource – jumped from fifth to fourth in the 2015 undergraduate classification
- Erasmus Okine has started the process of renewing the Strategic Research Plan.
- Board Chair update – the Board of Governors is currently in a search for a new Board Chair. We thank Gord Jong for his leadership and nine years of dedication to our institution. We are currently awaiting confirmation from the government on when their advertising of this, along with two other public member vacancies, will commence. We are looking to our colleague at the University of Alberta for insight as to the process, as they too are engaged in the search process.
- Destination Project update – lots of work has been happening on the project, including the recent funding announcement regarding the budget which includes the Destination Project as part of the Government of Alberta's capital commitments. Temporary trailers have just been moved onto the quad of Markin Hall which will house the Destination Project Office.
- Ministry change – Innovation and Advanced Education to Advanced Education, Minister Lori Sigurdson retains portfolio (along with Jobs, Skill, Labour). Relief for us as we went through a period of much changeover in ministers. New ministry of Economic Development and Trade announced to include the Innovation portfolio. Our Comprehensive Institutional Plan, which is submitted yearly to the Government, includes a lot about innovation, so we are waiting to see how the two ministries will interact.
- Launched at the annual Volunteer Fair, and in partnership with Volunteer Lethbridge, UVolunteer sets in motion an action plan and database that coordinates all the student volunteer activity on campus.
- Dedication of Native American Students lounge space in honour of Narcisse Blood on November 17
- November 16 installation of University of Alberta President David Turpin.
- University of Saskatchewan Building Reconciliation Leadership Forum held on November 18-19
- 27 high school students at Lethbridge Collegiate Institute as taking part of a pilot Dual

Credit initiative. It is great to see the uptake in the program and we are hoping to take the program out into the broader community.

- This is the ninth time that a U of L team participated in the annual International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) competition in Boston, Mass., which invites the world's brightest university and high school students to showcase innovative new biologically-engineered systems that solve real-world challenges. Over those nine years, the University has achieved eight gold medals, including this year, which is more than any other Canadian team.
- Dr. Glenda Bonifacio, UofL Professor in Women and Gender Studies, was selected to receive the 100 most influential Filipina Women in the World Award in the Innovator and Thought Leader Category.
- "Spooky Science" event, organized by Let's Talk Science at the University of Lethbridge, was very successful, bringing in hundreds of kids to campus.
- Women's Rugby team qualified for nationals and ended up sixth overall.
- Wilton Little Child, Truth and Reconciliation Commissioner, will be on campus December 9 at noon, Students' Union Ballrooms.

3.3 Board of Governors

B. Tait had nothing to add to the submitted report.

3.4 General Faculties Council

W. Osborn had nothing to add to the submitted report.

3.5 Alumni Association

R. Kobbert sent his regrets. M. Gabriel highlighted the newly introduced University of Lethbridge Alumni Association Young Alumni Award.

3.6 Graduate Students' Association

G. Vardazaryan had nothing to add to the submitted report. Senators were encouraged to attend the Meeting of the Minds Conference in March 2016.

3.7 Students' Union

B. Scott highlighted the fundraiser for the Students' Union foodbank, which is planned for March 11, 2016.

3.8 Executive Committee

R. Hood reported that the Executive committee has received some feedback regarding the dates and times of the Senate meetings. Having meetings occur on a weekday gives Senators the chance to experience campus life, like having our student athletes during the presentation earlier today. The intent is to move to four Friday meetings eventually, with the move being phased in. As a point of reference, other Senates within Alberta meet during the work week. R. Hood added that the Executive committee has decided to leave the 2015/16 meeting schedule as is, and is hoping that with advanced notice, accommodations with members' schedules can be made to attend the Friday meetings.

3.9 Engagement Committee

S. Hlady encouraged Senators to volunteer for Operation Red Nose, which is a major fundraiser for pronghorn athletics. Notice was given that the Senate Pronghorn Night is scheduled for Friday, January 22. More details to come.

M. Persinger is continuing to work on getting the word out about the Student/Senate dinners.

3.10 Honorary Degrees Committee

B. Galts reported that the Honorary Degree has met and they have prepared a shortlist of candidates, which will come before Senate in January.

3.11 Outreach Committee

K. Johnson highlighted a few items within her report, and added that she, along with R. Pogorzelski, hosted two dinners with students. Both events went well and the students seemed very appreciative.

3.12 Volunteer Award Committee

J. Varzari spoke to the award criteria and noted that the deadline for nominations is January 15. The award is presented at the Chancellor's Dinner each year.

3.13 Other

K. Wasiak highlighted a couple of events from the Faculty of Fine Arts:

- *en plein air* 2 art exhibition opens tomorrow at the Penny Building, and will remain there until the end of December. The exhibition contains a variety of work created at the Coutts Centre this summer.
- The 15th annual fundraiser Abbondanza will be held at the Galt Museum on Saturday, January 23.

J. Varzari noted that anyone interested in servicing on a committee can contact S. Olson.

4. ITEMS FOR ACTION

4.1 Senate Appointment

MOTION: sen.2015.12.03

Hood/Petersen

That Senate approve the appointment of Lori Harasem as a Representative member for an initial three-year term, effective December 4, 2015.

Motion: Carried

4.2 Honorary Degree Procedures

MOTION: sen.2015.12.04

Galts/Malec

That Senate approve the revised Honorary Degree Procedures.

Motion: Carried

The procedures currently state that a curriculum vitae (CV) is required in order for a nomination to be complete. As the candidate is not to be made aware of the nomination, it has been understood that obtaining a CV would be difficult in some circumstances. The Honorary Degree committee has recognized this and in the past special allowances have been made. B. Galts noted that the procedures should accurately reflect current practices.

5. IN-CAMERA

An *in-camera* discussion was held.

6. ITEMS FOR ACTION

6.1 Honorary Degree Special Case

MOTION: sen.2015.12.05

Galts/Brodrick

That Senate, as discussed in-camera, approve the allowance of awarding of an honorary degree outside of a convocation ceremony.

Motion: Carried, 1 Opposed

University Advancement will explore the options discussed and plan an event that honours the recipient and recognizes the University.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Students' Union Foodbank Fundraiser

The Students' Union Foodbank has seen a dramatic increase this past year, both from graduate and undergraduate students. In support of the foodbank, a fundraiser gala and silent auction is being planned for March 11, 2016. More details to come.

7.2 Distinguished Teaching Award

B. McKay described the background of the award and highlighted the nomination deadline of December 18.

7.3 Speaker Research Medal

This was provided for information. A. Hakin noted that this is a great way to recognize our stars internally.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: sen.2015.12.06

Wendy/Tait

That the Senate meeting of December 4, 2015 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried