

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE SENATE HELD

ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2009 AT 9:00 A.M. IN AH100

Present: Richard Davidson (Chair), Bill Cade, Margaret Cook, Clarence Arnoldussen, James Berezan, John Bolton, Lesley Brown, Susan Burrows-Johnson, David Cassidy, Debi Charlesworth, Susan Chomistek, Margaret Cook, Louella Cronkhite, Betty Cyr, Mary Daunt, Jo-Anne Fiske, Dianna Greer, Andrew Hakin, Alex Hann, Eric Hawthorne, Chris Hosgood, Roland Ikuta, Kim Kultgen, Tamara Larter, Kathy Lewis, Terry Longair, Rita Mahar, William Malcolm, Sheila McHugh, John Moldon, Kiyo Oikawa, Brodie Pattenden, Jenn Prosser, Elisha Rasmussen, Dory Rossiter, Frank Spanbauer, Katharine Stauffer, Calvin Stewart, Lea Switzer, Claire Torscher, Janice Varzari, Adam Vossepoel, Nancy Walker, Ed Wasiak, Nicole Leusink (Secretary)

Regrets: Fran Amundsen, Islay Arnold, Barrie Broughton, Robert Christiansen, Van E. Christou, Cheryl Dick, Holly Debnam, Shirley DeBow, Robert Hironaka, James Horsman, Wayne Johnson, John Kincaid, Sharon McNiven, Dale Merchant, Goldie Morgentaler, Gavin Parker, Derek Redman, Keith V. Robin, Ingrid M. Speaker, Lloyd Yamagishi, Gerard Westwood

I. WELCOME

The Chancellor welcomed all Senators and thanked them for coming. He also introduced new Senators Jo-Anne Fiske, Dean's Council Representative, and Alex Hann, Representative Member, who were unable to attend the October meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:

Lewis/Greer

That the Agenda for the Senate Meeting of February 7, 2009 be approved as circulated.

Motion:

Carried

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION:

Switzer/McHugh

That the Minutes of the Senate Meeting of October 4, 2008 be approved as circulated.

Motion:

Carried

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no items arising from the minutes.

5. *IN CAMERA* [CLOSED SESSIONS]

5.1 Motion to Move *In Camera*

MOTION:

Switzer/Hann

That Senate move *In camera* for the Report of the Honorary Degrees Committee.

Motion: Carried

The *in camera* discussion and motions are not minuted for public distribution with these minutes. They are available in the Senate Office to members of the Senate only, as a Confidential Addendum to the minutes of February 7, 2009.

6. REPORT OF THE HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE

Minutes from the Honorary Degrees Committee report are included in the Confidential Addendum to the Senate Minutes of February 7, 2009.

7. REPORT OF THE SENATE VOLUNTEER AWARD COMMITTEE

Minutes from the Senate Volunteer Award Committee report are included in the Confidential Addendum to the Senate Minutes of February 7, 2009.

8. MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

MOTION:

Larter/Hosgood

That Senate return to the Open Session of the meeting.

Motion: Carried

9. REPORTS

9.1 Chancellor

Richard Davidson reported that he had the opportunity to attend various Board of Governors events and Christmas parties in December and January. He also attended the Donor Recognition Gala at the new Water Building, which is an important new research facility on campus. Upcoming events include the Strategic Plan Launch and barbeque, and the International Dinner.

9.2 President

Bill Cade congratulated the Senate on their selection of Honorary Degree recipients.

Bill explained that there was hesitation about cancelling the December Senate meeting, but it was felt that it would be better not to put people at risk. Exams were also cancelled that weekend due to the extreme weather conditions.

The new Strategic Plan has been approved and will be launched with a barbeque on February 12, 2009.

The Women's rugby team's success was highlighted, and Senators were encouraged to support the basketball, hockey and rugby teams as they wrap up their seasons and prepare for next year.

Dr Lesley Brown was congratulated for being named the Prairie Baseball Academy's Professor of the Year.

In November, Bill attended a very successful alumni reception in Hong Kong, along with representatives from the University of Calgary, the University of Alberta, and the Government of Alberta.

Recent events on campus include the announcement of the Polaris Award, the opening of the Alberta Water and Environmental Science Building, the continuing construction of Markin Hall, and the Donor Recognition Event.

The 1st Choice Savings Centre for Sport and Wellness sustained damage from severe winds at the end of January 2009. No injuries were sustained, and Nancy Walker and her team did an excellent job repairing the damage.

On February 4, 2009, Bill spoke at Big Rock U, a fundraising event for the University of Calgary organized by Dr. Ed McNally. Dr. McNally is a generous supporter of the University of Lethbridge as well, and is a large supporter of undergraduate and graduate students in the Nursing program. He recently provided a \$4000 scholarship for every graduate nursing student at the U of L.

The University of Lethbridge performed very well in the most recent Canadian University Survey Consortium survey.

Bill then led a detailed discussion about budget concerns in the midst of uncertain economic times. He invited Nancy Walker to speak about the budget and Andrew Hakin to speak about enrolment. Issues such as high school graduation rates, student retention, accommodations, and public transportation

were discussed. University administration will continue to monitor the situation and provide appropriate information to the community as it becomes available.

It was mentioned that in times of economic downturn, educational institutions often experience a 'recession bulge.' However, this may not be felt in Lethbridge because it is a smaller centre that has not been as affected by job losses as other parts of the country. The areas likely to see the highest impact of the recession surge are places in Ontario where there has been an ongoing crisis in the manufacturing sector. However, Jo-Anne Fiske added that because of the U of L's excellence in research and distinguished faculty members, there is a large capacity for graduate students. The School of Graduate Studies is continuing to grow as the culture and identity of the U of L shifts to that of a comprehensive university. This will not be done at the expense of the undergraduate focus, but as a compliment to it.

In light of these uncertain times, the Senators were reminded that quality will prevail, and as ambassadors of the University of Lethbridge, Senators are encouraged to get into the community to promote the high quality of this institution.

9.3 Board of Governors

The Board of Governors Representative had nothing to report at this time.

9.4 General Faculties Council

Lesley Brown reported that 7% of the Fall 2008 classes had their textbooks delivered very late. Jim Booth, head of the bookstore, took responsibility for this issue and has assured the General Faculties Council that it will not happen again.

9.5 Alumni Association

Sheila McHugh reported that 6 Honour Society inductees will be ratified at the next Alumni Association meeting. These inductees are alumni who are recognized for outstanding career and community contributions. Senators John Bolton and Janice Varzari will be among those recognized this year.

The Alumni Association will be hiring some Fine Arts students to paint their logo in the tunnel on campus.

Upcoming fundraising events include a scotch tasting at the end of April and the John Gill Memorial Golf Tournament on June 12. Senators are encouraged to attend these events.

9.6 Students' Union

Adam Vossepoel reported that the University of Lethbridge did very well in the annual McLean's magazine university survey. The Zoo did not do so well, but the Students' Union is working on improvements.

Upcoming events include the "Sex, Drugs, & Rock n Roll" Awareness Week, the Students' Union elections, the Last Lecture Series, and the 2nd Annual John Gill Memorial Run.

9.7 Grad Students' Association

Tamara Larter reported that the provincial government has established a province-wide Grad Citizenship Award. 5 of these \$2000 awards will be given to University of Lethbridge graduate students who demonstrate community involvement.

The Alberta Grad Council met with MLA's in late October to lobby for funding. The MLA's seemed to appreciate the ideas presented, but were hesitant to commit any funds considering the price of oil.

On March 14, graduate students and senior undergraduate students will have the opportunity to attend the Graduate Students Association Conference and present their work to their peers. Other events include CAETL sessions for TA's and social events such as the pub trivia night.

Bill Cade added that the new federal budget includes some additional funds for graduate studies, and the University of Lethbridge will take advantage of whatever funds become available.

10. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10.1 Senate Nomination Forms

In December, all Senators received notice of the Senate memberships that are expiring in 2009 and copies of the Senate nomination form.

Chancellor Davidson reminded the Senate that the Executive Committee will meet on March 18 to review the nominations to Senate and propose a list of appointees for the approval of the Senate in April. The Senate's input and assistance is requested in placing the names of people before the Committee.

Additional nomination forms are available from the Senate office and the Senate website.

10.2 Senate Fund Update

David Cassidy informed the Senate that they have exceeded their goal for the Senate Fund by raising \$21 350 from September 2008 to December 2008. Because this money is eligible for matching, this brings the Fall 2008 total to \$41 700. There were 40 donors that participated in the campaign. A big thank you was given to all who participated!

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Chancellor Davidson informed the Senate that additional Senate Standing Committee Participation Forms are available for anyone who has not yet submitted one. They should be submitted to the Secretary to Senate as soon as possible.

Kathy Lewis informed the Senate that she is part of a group of Canadians nominating Howard Cable for Canada's Walk of Fame. Dr. Cable is a previous Honorary Degree recipient from the University of Lethbridge. Anyone wishing to vote for him can do so on the Walk of Fame website.

12. ADJOURNEMENT

MOTION:

Arnoldussen/Hawthorne

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion:

Carried