

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE SENATE HELD

ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2006 AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE AH 100

Present: Shirley DeBow (Chair), Clarence Arnoldussen, Jim Berezan, Henry Bergen, Peter Blackmore, Bill Cade, David Cassidy, Don Chandler, Jennifer Drozdowski, Rex Forsyth, Dustin Fuller, Ralph Gast, John Gill, Dianna Greer, Sharon Holtman, Kim Kultgen, Tyler Johnson, Samantha Lecerf, Kathy Lewis, Gerry Lidstone, Terry Longair, John Moldon, Ken Murray, Ed Nestorowicz, Séamus O'Shea, Cheryl Pollmuller, Guy Pomahac, Elisha Rasmussen, Wilf Roesler, Craig Rumer, Paul Rusznak, Ches Skinner, Locke Spencer, Katharine Stauffer, Lea Switzer, Tyler Tanner, Nancy Walker, Kristine Wall, Alex Wells, Sue West, Gerard Westwood, Trevor Woods, Cliff Wright, Carol Van Dyk (Secretary)

Regrets: Barrie Broughton, Lloyd Hickman, Charlene Janes, Elizabeth Martin-Jong, Sharon McNiven, Derek Redman, Pamela Winsor

Guest: Rita Zaugg

I. WELCOME

The Chancellor welcomed new Senators Tyler Johnson, Students' Union representative and Lea Switzer, Senate representative from Lethbridge. They were also given U of L pins as is our custom.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:

Rasmussen/Gast

That the Agenda for the Senate Meeting of February 4, 2006 be approved.

Motion: Carried

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION:

West/Stauffer

That the Minutes of the Senate Meeting of December 3, 2005 be approved.

Motion: Carried

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Don Chandler stated that his regrets sent for the December 2, 2005 meeting were not noted. Jennifer Drozdowski also mentioned that at the last Senate meeting it was stated that the Hospitality Committee would be hosting a Spring Event to welcome new faculty and staff but that plans have been postponed until Fall.

5. *IN CAMERA* [CLOSED SESSIONS]

5.1 Motion to Move *in Camera*

MOTION:

WrightHoltman

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 4, 2006.

6. REPORT OF THE HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE

7. MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

8. REPORTS

8.1 Chancellor

The Chancellor reported the following:

- The Chancellor extended congratulations to several persons with a University connection who had been awarded an Alberta Centennial Medal. Those recognized included Henry Bergen, Nancy Walker, Bill Cade, Seamus O'Shea, John Molden, Sharon Holtman, Ed Nestorowicz, Rita Zaugg and Shirley DeBow.
- A meeting of the Alberta Universities Chancellors will be hosted by the University of Lethbridge on March 3. This is the third meeting of this group. The University of Calgary has expressed an interest in spearheading a western Canada Chancellors' meeting. Student engagement and what initiatives a Senate might undertake to enhance the student experience outside the classroom will be discussed as well as ways to enhance the faculty liaison program.
- The Chancellor reported she was honored to be asked to serve as the honorary chair of the 5<sup>th</sup> on 5<sup>th</sup> Investing in Youth campaign. A "Taste of Lethbridge" event will be held March 18, 2006.

- Senators were reminded to give some thought to nominating persons to serve as Senators. Nomination forms were included with the Senate agendas. Nomination forms are to be received in the Senate Office by March 4, 2006.
- The Chancellor's Search Committee will soon by meeting. Senators are asked to consider candidates to be nominated for the position of Chancellor when Chancellor DeBow's term ends in 2007.
- The Chancellor reported that three members of the University community recently passed away. Bill Lambert was a founding faculty member in the English Department, James Liu a faculty member in the Mathematics and Computer Science Department, and Grazyna Gorny a research technician in the Neuroscience Department.
- Congratulations were extended to those who ran in the recent Federal election. It was noted that the Prime Minister elect, Mr. Stephen Harper visited the U of L campus when The Honourable Ray Speaker received an honorary degree. Each of the candidates who ran in the recent Federal election has a strong University of Lethbridge connection including Melanee Thomas, past Students' Union President and the successful candidate Rick Casson, a former U of L employee.
- General Roméo Dallaire, who received a U of L honorary degree in October 2005, will speak at the Southern Alberta Council on Public Affairs (SACPA), February 10, 2006 at Erickson's Restaurant. International Week will feature a special screening of the movie "Shake Hands with the Devil: The Journey of Roméo Dallaire", at 7:00 p.m. in the Recital Hall (W570). There is limited seating for this free event.
- The annual Management Scholarship dinner will be held March 17, 2006.
- Friday, February 3 was the last basketball home games in the existing gymnasium. The Pronghorn men prevailed over the University of Calgary in a very close and exciting game.
- Senators were encouraged to participate in the various events that are offered at the University.

## 8.2 President

Bill Cade provided the following report:

- The University has been working with the Federal Government, specifically Anne McClellan, on a contribution to the water building. In view of Ms. McLellan not being re-elected, those talks will go to a new minister. Oryssia Lennie, Deputy Minister of Western Economic Diversification Canada, has offered assurance that the project is still a priority.
- A comprehensive analysis of day care is on the University's web site. There is a substantial feeling that there needs to be a day care on campus and there has been consultation with several groups. Bill Cade explained that a subsidy of about \$100,000 per year would be needed to provide 50 day care spaces on campus. The administration is now meeting with various constituent groups to get a sense of what the priority of this is. This will be part of the next budget deliberations. He reported that day care in Lethbridge is very full.

- Bill Cade reported he was in Toronto last week and, along with the Presidents of the other two Alberta residential universities, met with the new editor of **MACLEAN'S** and the new editor of their universities ranking edition. At that meeting it was pointed out that institutions have different philosophies and there was divergence on some points. Admission averages, which are part of the rankings, were raised. Ontario grades are highly inflated when compared to Alberta grades. One-half of their students graduate with at least an 80% average, yet Alberta students measure best in the country and very high in the world on standardized tests. This issue has been raised with **MACLEAN'S** over the last several years. Three years ago the Alberta universities submitted transformed grades, informing **MACLEAN'S** what was being submitted. **MACLEAN'S** subsequently agreed that the weighting of the admission average would be downgraded. Also at issue is that the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund and other Alberta Provincial scholarships flow directly to the student and are not included in the institutions' scholarship funding calculation. This is not the case in Ontario where Provincial government scholarship money flows through the universities' budgets, making scholarship expenditure a higher percentage of those budgets. **MACLEAN'S** agreed last year that Alberta scholarships will be included in the equation. The President noted that the three university Presidents worked very well together. The provosts of the Alberta universities have formed an association to carry a common voice when dealing with the provincial government. Séamus O'Shea added that the U of L is required to report Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) to the Provincial Government. These are output measures rather than the input measures of **MACLEAN'S**. The KPI's will be submitted to government shortly and the U of L has gone up in every significant indicator. The indicators include completion rates, persistence rates, research money, private vs public sector research funding, standing in national scholarships, etc. These are indicators of how well the University of Lethbridge is doing, it's what's important to the Government, and is a complement to the **MACLEAN'S** rankings.
- The President reported that Jon Doan was selected as the Professor of the Year by the Prairie Baseball Academy. He is in his first year of full-time teaching, after receiving his Ph.D. from the U of L. Marda Schindeler was selected from LCC. She was formerly at the U of L.
- The Management Students Society students did exceptionally well at the JDC West competition at UBC.
- Kristine Wall remarked that she heard positive comments about the President attending an agricultural conference. It was reported that the University will establish a lecture at this annual conference.
- Premier Klein said there would be no tuition fee increases this year. This is cause for concern since that money was earmarked by the University to add spaces. The tuition fees in Alberta are a bit above the national average. This is balanced by a fairly strong scholarship and grant support system. The fraction of U of L students who graduate with debt has not gone up nor has the amount of debt increased for those who have debt. It was pointed out that professional fees have increased significantly across the country. This seems to be a result of public institutions comparing their fees to private schools.

- Nancy walker reported that recent high winds have delayed construction on the Regional Health and Wellness Centre since the roof trusses could not be raised. Extra cranes have been brought on site and work is taking place seven days a week. The building is expected to be closed in by the end of March.
- The President reported that Mount Royal College has stopped asking to be a university for the time being. The U of L Calgary and Edmonton campuses will be aggressively expanded. The Board will be asked to approve renting another floor in the Edmonton building and an expansion at SAIT will be pursued.

### 8.3 Board of Governors

Sharon Holtman gave the following report:

- Sharon Holtman waived her report since the material had been covered by others. She complimented the President for the further investigation on the possibility of having day care on campus.

### 8.4 Alumni Association

John Gill reported the following:

- John Gill reported that the Alumni Association participated in Operation Red Nose on December 5. It was a lot of fun, an excellent public service and a fundraiser for the Pronghorn teams.
- As the President of the Alumni Association, he allowed a mask of his face to be made for the Allied Arts Council fundraiser which garnered a rather large donation to the cause, from his wife.
- John Gill travelled to Calgary for the AGM of the Calgary Chapter. At the last meeting, the main Association received a request from the Calgary Chapter for \$2000 for next year. John Gill reported he was pleased to deliver the cheque to them at the meeting.
- The Alumni Association is working on selecting the inductees to the Alumni Honour Society.
- The Alumni Association's annual golf tournament will be Friday, June 9, 2006. A portion of the proceeds will go towards funding a new bursary.

### 8.5 Students' Union

Tyler Tanner reported:

- A survey was conducted on student impressions of the new large classroom in the PE building (250 seats). Hadi Kharaghani, who has the reputation of being a phenomenal professor, assisted Tyler in putting together the survey. Tyler reported that 85% of the students surveyed liked the classroom a lot or liked it somewhat.
- Dustin Fuller spearheaded the Students' Union Federal election debates. The candidates were all present and there was a good turnout from students.

- A paper/rock/scissors tournament is coming up February 8 to 10, 2006 in the SUB with 128 contestants. The grand prize is free tuition.
- Avi Lewis will be on campus February 14, 2006 to speak on the student movement in Canada. This is a free event with tickets available at the SU office or the SU service centre.
- Students' Union general elections open February 27, 2006.
- Students will be contributing \$2.5 million to the Regional Health and Wellness Centre and will be proposing a name for the facility. A committee was formed and suggestions for a name were solicited. The name chosen was "Witness the Fitness". The Students' Union will also be commissioning a work of art. Nancy Walker and her team are working on a letter of intent for artists and a committee will be formed to consider submissions. The unveiling of the art piece will be September 2007.
- The Students' Union bylaws are being reviewed and serious consideration is being given to adding diversity positions on council.
- Tyler Tanner reported that President Bill Cade participated in the Polar Bear Swim organized by JDC West as part of their competition. Money was raised for the United Way and food was collected for the Students' Union food bank. The U of L team achieved a third place finish overall at JDC West, out of eight universities and managed some first place rankings.
- The Roterac Club put on a "Water for Life" fundraiser. The silent auction, which was attended by more than 200 people, raised about \$14,000 to build wells in villages in India. This will pay for about 10 wells. The local Rotary Club has since matched the grant for a total of approximately \$30,000.

## 9. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Senate Photograph order forms were distributed with the Senate agenda. The Senate photo will be taken at the Senate meeting on April 1, 2006.

A picture of "Froggie and Friends" from the Santa Clause Parade held in Fort Macleod was also included with the agenda.

Shirley DeBow added that she was interviewed by Elisha Rasmussen on her show and thanked her for the opportunity. Elisha Rasmussen reported that she is working on two segments for noon hour broadcast; "Senior Savvy" and a profile piece. She welcomes suggestions for topics and persons to profile.

The Hospitality Committee will meet following this meeting.

## 10. OTHER BUSINESS

It was suggested that a Senate committee be established to organize the University's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary events and the City's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary events and other special events. It was suggested that this was an appropriate role for the Executive Committee.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Greer/Westwood

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion:Carried

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