

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE SENATE HELD

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2008 AT 9:00 A.M. IN AH100

- Present: Richard Davidson (Chair), Bill Cade, Clarence Arnoldussen, James Berezan, Lesley Brown, Susan Burrows-Johnson, David Cassidy, Debi Charlesworth, Robert Christiansen, Susan Chomistek, Margaret Cook, Louella Cronkhite, Betty Cyr, Mary Daunt, Holly Debnam, Cheryl Dick, Andrew Hakin, Eric Hawthorne, Chris Hosgood, Roland Ikuta, Wayne Johnson, Kim Kultgen, Kathy Lewis, Sharon McNiven, Dale Merchant, John Moldon, Goldie Morgentaler, Tamara Larter, Terry Longair, Kiyoo Oikawa, Brodie Pattenden, Gavin Parker, Jenn Prosser, Elisha Rasmussen, Derek Redman, Dory Rossiter, Katharine Stauffer, Frank Spanbauer, Claire Torscher, Janice Varzari, Adam Vossepoel, Nancy Walker, Ed Wasiak, Gerard Westwood, Ed Wasiak
- Regrets: Fran Amundsen, John Bolton, Barrie Broughton, Jo-Anne Fiske, Dianna Greer, Alex Hann, John Kincaid, Rita Mahar, William Malcolm, Sheila McHugh, Calvin Stewart, Lea Switzer, Lloyd Yamagishi
- Others: Rita Law, Director, Director of Governance
Nicole Leusink, Secretary to Senate

I. WELCOME

Chancellor Davidson thanked and welcomed everyone to the new Senate year. He introduced the new Secretary to Senate, Ms. Nicole Leusink, and informed the Senators that the previous Secretary to Senate, Mrs. Sheena Olson, had a baby girl, Eden Hope Olson. Chancellor Davidson informed the Senate that a baby gift has been presented to Mrs. Olson on behalf of the Senate.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:

Rasmussen/Larter

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

Motion:

Carried

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Merchant/Cassidy

That the Senate appoint Brodie Pattenden to the Public Communications/Honorary Degree Nominating Committee, effective until April 30, 2009.

Motion:

Carried

6.3 Appointment of Student Member and Graduate Student Member to the Senate Volunteer Award Committee

Award Committee

MOTION:

Stauffer/Hosgood

That the Senate appoint Tamara Larter and Eric Hawthorne to the Senate Volunteer Award Committee, effective until April 30, 2009.

Motion:

Carried

6.4 Appointment of Senator to the Distinguished Teacher Award Selection Committee

MOTION:

Larter/Torscher

That the Senate appoint Susan Chomistek to the Distinguished Teacher Award Selection Committee.

Motion:

Carried

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1 Spring Convocation Recap and Fall Convocation Preview

Spring Convocation was held on May 29th & 30th, 2008. Over 1600 students applied to graduate, 1000 of whom walked across the stage between 4 ceremonies. Ceremony IV (where Management Degrees were conferred) was the largest ceremony ever held at the University of Lethbridge. Honorary Degrees were awarded to Dr. Ian Wishaw, Dr. Shirley DeBow, Dr. Wendy Nielsen, Dr. Roelof Heinen, Dr. Sheila Weatherill, and Dr. Henry Bergen. Of the 33 volunteers for ushers, tea pourers, and check-in greeters, only 18 were current or former Senators. There were 219 attendees at this year's Chancellor's Dinner, and at this dinner, Dan Laplante received the 2008 Senate Volunteer Award.

Fall Convocation will be held on October 18, 2008. Traditionally there is only 1 convocation ceremony in the fall; however, this year, due to extensive water damage to the gym floor, there will be 2 ceremonies – one at 9:30am and one at

2:30pm. 230 students are expected to receive their degrees at these ceremonies. Ben Heppner will receive his honorary degree at the morning ceremony and Connie Prentice will receive hers in the afternoon. Ben Heppner will be putting on a fundraising concert on October 19 at 3:00pm at Southminster United Church. The funds raised will go towards student scholarships, and tickets may still be available at the U of L box office.

8. REPORTS

8.1 Chancellor

Over the summer, the University of Lethbridge was well-represented at many events.

On May 7th, Chancellor Davidson brought greetings and congratulations on behalf of the Senate at the Long Service and Retirement Recognition Award Ceremony. On May 28th he attended the Student Research Awards Ceremony, which was followed later that evening by the 2008 Alumni Celebration.

Spring Convocation was held over two days at the end of May at the University. We also held the Chancellor's Dinner during the evening of May 29th in the Atrium, which hosted many worthy guests within the U of L community. Thank you to Sheena Olson for organizing such a splendid event, and thank you to all who participated.

We recognized the retirement of our past Senators at a dinner held on June 11th to thank them for their diligence and support within the Senate.

The Board of Governors held their annual retreat at Elkwater during the final weekend of June. It was a time for meetings, hard work, and getting to know one another.

Canada Day Celebrations were scheduled to be held at Henderson Lake Park, but unfortunately had to be cancelled due to extreme weather conditions. However, the next weekend the weather cleared and two teams represented the U of L in the dragon boat races.

Whoop Up Days included the parade, where members of the Advancement Department, Vice Presidents Offices, and Students Union represented the University in a convertible and a Smart Car.

In September, the Chancellor attended the New Student Orientation with four other volunteers from the Senate. This provided the opportunity to speak with the parents and partners of new students and hear their impressions of the University.

On September 19th and 20th, Chancellor Davidson had the pleasure of attending the University of Alberta's Homecoming and 1968 Law Class Reunion, where he represented the U of L and connected with his Law School classmates.

8.2 President

President Cade welcomed the Senators to a new Senate year, particularly welcoming the new members. He introduced the members of the Administration that were in attendance; Dr. Andrew Hakin, Vice-President, Academic and Provost; Nancy Walker, Vice President, Finance and Administration; Rita Law, Director of Governance; and Nicole Leusink, Secretary to Senate.

Though enrolment is slightly below that of last year, the goal of approximately 8000 students has been met. It is a tough year for post-secondary enrolment in Alberta, particularly due to a lower number of students coming out of high school. It is a strong testament to Dr. Hakin and the high school recruitment team that the enrolment numbers are as high as they are.

A new Bachelor of Public Health degree is now available at the University of Lethbridge. This program has been established with the cooperation of the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary. It clearly signals the move that the U of L is making towards increased health research.

The School of Health Sciences is well on its way to becoming the Faculty of Health Sciences. A vote on this matter will take place at the General Faculties Council meeting on Monday, October 6.

University of Lethbridge student Jim Steacy placed 10th in the hammer throw competition at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games. The contributions of his coach, Larry Steinke, were also noted.

University of Lethbridge student Theo Tams won the national talent competition Canadian Idol. CTV held a live broadcast at the 1st Choice Savings Centre for Sport and Wellness, which was attended by approximately 1500 people. Dr. Cade recognized Mr. Tams' musical and academic talent, particularly noting the high quality of instruction Mr. Tams' received from his instructor Dr. George Evelyn.

Dr. Cade announced that on Oct 23, the Premier of Alberta will be announcing the winner of the 1st Polaris Award. The award is presented by iCORE, AHFMR, and the AB Ingenuity Fund. The University of Lethbridge is the first successful applicant for this award of \$20 million over three years. It has been used to hire Dr. Bruce McNaughton, a Canadian academic who has been working at the University of Arizona, studying the neurobiology of memory. The University of Lethbridge is proud to receive the richest academic prize in Canada, and to welcome Dr. McNaughton. Two additional senior professors will be appointed as well. It was noted that Dr. McNaughton and these additional professors are joining the University of Lethbridge because of the outstanding work going on here in the neuroscience field.

Dr. Cade reported on the various construction projects going on around campus. The new water building will have its formal opening on November 10. The new Markin Hall is under construction and will house the Faculty of Management and

the (soon-to-be) Faculty of Health Sciences. These two faculties were brought together in a deliberate move to work towards better management of a better health system. Construction of the Stadium has been delayed until next summer due to the extensive flooding on July 1, 2008, as the synthetic track could not be poured under the conditions. The Stadium construction is a joint project between the University of Lethbridge, the City of Lethbridge, and the province of Alberta, costing a total of \$11 million. The Penny Building downtown is currently being rented by the 55+ Games and the Southern Alberta Art Gallery. There are many plans for the future use of this facility.

There is also some deconstruction going on around campus. The temporary buildings that have been here for 42 years are being moved off campus. The front entrance to the campus where these buildings were located will be landscaped.

Nancy Walker and her team were commended for the hard work they put into cleaning up and repairing the damage from the July 1 flooding in the 1st Choice Savings Centre for Sport and Wellness. The basketball teams will be able to play the 2008-2009 year, but next summer the entire gymnasium floor will need to be replaced due to mould. Nancy Walker mentioned that an engineering report has been undertaken to see what, if anything, can be done to prevent something like this from happening in the future.

Allison Nussbaumer has been hired as the new University Librarian. Desmond Rochford has been hired as the new Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts while Dean Skinner is on leave. Search committees have been formed to replace Jane O'Dea, the current Dean of the Faculty of Education, and Dennis Fitzpatrick, the current Vice President, Research. National and international searches will be held to fill these positions.

Andrew Hakin and Nancy Walker are undertaking the new Strategic Plan for the U of L. The focus of the new plan will be to move towards a comprehensive institution and have a greater emphasis on graduate studies while staying true to the undergraduate focus. This plan is anticipated to be approved in December and launched in January.

The University of Lethbridge is participating in Team Lethbridge, a group headed by Economic Development Lethbridge who met with provincial ministers to promote Lethbridge. Thanks are extended to Cheryl Dick for her work on behalf of this group.

President Cade stated that he had the opportunity to attend the University of Alberta's 100th Anniversary celebration. Along with the Presidents of the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary, he will be travelling to Hong Kong with the Minister of Education. There will be three alumni receptions held, one of which will be hosted by the University of Lethbridge. Outside of Alberta, Hong Kong has the largest number of University of Lethbridge graduates. The University of Alberta will also be holding a convocation ceremony there in celebration of their 100th Anniversary.

Derek Redman noted that the Polaris Award is distributed over a period of 10

years, and asked if this meant that Dr. McNaughton has made a long-term commitment to the University of Lethbridge. Dr. Cade stated that he has been offered a tenured position and therefore it is most likely that Dr. McNaughton plans to be with the U of L long term.

Louella Cronkhite asked about the University of Lethbridge population split between males and females. It was noted that approximately 45% of U of L students are male and 55% are female.

8.3 Board of Governors

Kim Kultgen reported that the Board had their annual retreat at Elkwater this past summer. Here they approved the financial statements, which Nancy Walker did an excellent job of presenting in layman's terms. Student fees were also approved. President Cade added that at the retreat a steel drum circle also took place and it was a great experience.

8.4 General Faculties Council

Goldie Morgentaler informed the Senate that as the first General Faculties Council meeting is not until Monday, October 6, there is nothing to report at this time.

8.5 Alumni Association

Holly Debnam submitted a report that is included with these minutes. She highlighted some key points of the report and added:

- Senator Kathy Lewis is doing double duty on the Senate as a representative member and as an alumni association representative. Due to time constraints based on his PhD work, Guy Pomahac has resigned from his position with the alumni association. Robert Christiansen has taken his place as an alumni association representative.
- The alumni association is very proud of the increased fundraising efforts at the annual John Gill Memorial Golf Tournament and encouraged Chancellor Davidson and President Cade to attend future.

8.6 Students' Union

Adam Vossepoel submitted a report that is included with these minutes. He highlighted some key points of the report and added:

- The Students' Union will be holding a political awareness week called "funk the system" following the national election.
- Tamara Larter asked about the cost of the pocket lounge project, and Adam informed the Senate that the total cost for the project was \$300 000 over a period of 3 years, including the cost of furniture in the library. Chancellor Davidson added that this encourages student engagement, which makes their experience more rewarding.

8.7 Grad Students Association

Tamara Larter submitted a report that is included with these minutes. She highlighted some key points of the report and answered the following questions:

- What is the U-Pass – it is an ID sticker that Graduate students can purchase for \$2/semester that will give them unlimited bus use.
- How many Graduate students are enrolled right now – due to FOIP regulations, Ms. Larter did not have an exact number. However, Andrew Hakin noted that the numbers are available but not the names. There are approximately 450 Graduate students currently enrolled, which shows a huge growth in the program.

8.8 Outreach Committee

Clarence Arnoldussen reported that the Outreach Committee held their first meeting on Wednesday, September 23. The committee discussed holding a reception for Canadian Idol winner Theo Tams, but at this point, the Senate has not been able to reach him. The committee also discussed holding an event to honour Dr. Bruce McNaughton, winner of the Polaris award. However, at the suggestion of President Cade, the committee will put this idea on hold for the time being. The committee is now pursuing an event to honour Olympic competitor Jim Steacy.

8.9 Hospitality Committee

Betty Cyr reported on behalf of the Hospitality Committee. She informed the Senate that a meeting of the Hospitality Committee was held on Wednesday, September 10, where the committee planned the welcome event for new Faculty and Staff. The event will be a wine and cheese reception at the Galt Museum Viewing Gallery on Tuesday, October 21, and the invitations have been sent out by email.

8.10 PC/Honorary Degree Nominating Committee

Elisha Rasmussen told the Senate that she worked on a media release with Sheena Olson, Nicole Leusink, and Bob Cooney, and this release has now been sent out. The purpose of this release is to encourage the community to nominate worthy candidates for honorary degrees. The release included quotes from past recipients to showcase their reactions and make the nomination process more approachable. Copies of this release were distributed to the Senators, and Bob Cooney and Elisha Rasmussen will follow up with the media in regards to the release. Elisha reminded the Senate that the deadline for 2009 nominations is November 1, 2008 and nomination forms are available online and from the Secretary to Senate.

9. PHOTOGRAPH AND REFRESHMENT BREAK

An official photograph was taken of the Senate and the Senators were given the opportunity to purchase a copy of this photograph.

10. TOUR IN THE THEATRE AND DRAMATIC ARTS DEPARTMENT

Teresa Heyburn and Leslie Robison-Greene hosted the members of the Senate on an exciting and informative tour in the Theatre and Dramatic Arts Department. The Senators had the opportunity to tour the David Spinks Theatre, the set shop, the costume shop, and the University of Lethbridge Theatre.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 Standing Committee Participation Form

Chancellor Davidson encouraged the Senators to become involved on committees, as this is where the majority of the 'heavy lifting' of Senate goes on. He stressed the importance of filling out the form so that Senators can serve on the committee that most interests them, rather than being placed into a committee that they may not have chosen.

12. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

12.1 Senate Fund Update

Cheryl Dick, the co-chair of the Senate Fund fundraising initiative with David Cassidy, provided the Senate with an update on the Senate Fund. This fund was created as a response to the continuing effort to support student scholarships. The Senate has so far raised over \$40 000, which was matched by the province to make a total in excess of \$80 000. The goal is to raise \$100 000 by December 2008, and since the mail-out that was done this fall, an additional \$10 000 has already been raised. Thirteen Senators have volunteered to contact past and present Senators to follow up with the letter that was sent.

Cheryl informed the committee that this is an endowment fund that will provide one or more awards of \$1500+ to a continuing student in any undergraduate degree program who has demonstrated academic achievement, volunteer work, and financial need. The past winner of this award is Stratton Steed, a 4th year Bachelors of Science (Neuroscience) student who has participated in many different volunteer activities.

Cheryl noted that she views her employment with Economic Development Lethbridge as a way to support prosperity in Lethbridge, and she sees her involvement with the Senate Fund as a continuation of that aim. Chancellor Davidson added that this particular Fund is unique in that it is the only opportunity to support student scholarships that is available exclusively to Senators. David Cassidy encouraged Senators to take part in this fundraising initiative, because giving is such a positive experience.

12.2 Note of Thanks

Chancellor Davidson thanked the people who worked so hard on the Canada Day event, particularly noting the efforts of Maureen Schwartz. Though the event was unfortunately rained out, the Senate wanted to recognize the work put in.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Arnoldussen/Pattenden

That the October 4, 2007 meeting of the Senate be adjourned.

Motion:

Carried