

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
HELD THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2009 AT 1:30 P.M.

PENNY BUILDING: 324-5 STREET SOUTH

Present: Robert Turner (Chair), Bill Cade, Richard Davidson, Kevin Nugent, Leah Fowler, Jeremy Girard, Jeremiah Merkl, Myles Bourke, Karen Bartsch, Dean Setoguchi, Gordon Jong, Doug McArthur, Art Bonertz, Jim Berezan, Richard Querel, Heidi MacDonald, Rita Law (Secretary)

Regrets: Evelyn Good Striker, Grant Pisko, Kim Kultgen, Jenn Prosser, Leah Fowler

Others: Nancy Walker, Vice-President (Finance & Administration)
Andrew Hakin, Vice-President (Academic) & Provost
Chris Horbachewski, Vice-President (Advancement)
Dennis Fitzpatrick, Vice-President (Research)
Richard Westlund, Director, Government Relations
Bob Cooney, Communications Officer, University Advancement
Bryson Brown, Professor of Philosophy
Linda Crump, Recording Secretary

His Worship Mayor Bob Tarleck was welcomed as a guest to the Board meeting. The Mayor spoke of the huge implications of technology, referring to the Canada Remote Sensing Society conference held recently at the U of L as an example. He remarked that the U of L has a reputation for excellence in Education, Management, Health Sciences and the Sciences generally. He recognized that the U of L has a culture of excellence and has seen dramatic progress. The City is proud to have partnered with the U of L on several projects. The Mayor added that the City is important to the University and the University is important to the City. He was pleased that the University now has a presence in the downtown area.

The Mayor excused himself from the meeting following his remarks.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

1.1 Approval of the June 25, 2009 Open Session Agenda

1.2 Approval of the May 21, 2009 Open Session Minutes

MOTION: opn.2009.06.01

Davidson/Jong

That the Board of Governors approve the consent agenda for the June 25, 2009 open session.

Motion: Carried

2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

2.1 University Convocation

The Board Chair stated that the Board could take pride in the May 28-29, 2009 U of L Convocation and congratulated the Chancellor on a successful Convocation. The Registrar's staff was commended on how well the event went. The singers of the national anthem, who are chosen from among U of L students, gave excellent and heart warming performances.

2.2 Canada School of Energy and Environment (CSEE) Dinner

The Board Chair remarked that he regretted having to miss the dinner recognizing Dennis Fitzpatrick as he leaves the office of Vice-President (Research). The event conflicted with a CSEE Dinner meeting on June 5, 2009 in Banff. The CSEE hosted the inaugural two-day conference, where 13 Environmental Ministers and Premier Stelmach gathered to discuss the Canada-U.S. climate change accord prior to the international negotiations in Copenhagen, Sweden.

2.3 TELUS World of Science

The Board Chair, Bill Cade and Chris Horbachewski were pleased that the U of L had a table at the June 2, 2009, 25th Anniversary celebration of the Edmonton Space and Science Foundation (Telus World of Science). The U of L has a strong relationship with the Telus World of Science Edmonton. Burt Rutan, an aircraft designer and aerospace entrepreneur was a very compelling speaker. He spoke about the "*Inspiration for Innovation and the New Race for Space*". Aviation Alberta in cooperation with the TELUS World of Science were the "*presenting Sponsor*" for the event.

2.4 John Gill Memorial Scholarship recipient – Amanda Miller

Amanda Miller is the first recipient of the John Gill Memorial Scholarship. Due to her summer location in Edmonton, Amanda was unable to accept the Board's invitation to attend the Board meeting to be recognized. Amanda expressed in an email, what an honour it is for her to receive the John Gill memorial Scholarship. The Board Chair stated that Amanda is an outstanding recipient and he looks forward to following her career.

2.5 Letter from the Minister

A letter has been received for Alberta Advanced Education and Technology (AET) confirming a 6% increase in the government grant for 2009-2010. However, there will likely be no increase to the grant in the subsequent two years. The Board Chair noted that the confirmation of the 6% grant increase allows the Board time to make critical adjustments.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President welcomed the Board to the U of L downtown location. He thanked the Mayor for his persistence in getting the U of L to move to a building in the downtown area. He recognized the role of the University in the economic development of the city. The President reported that a U of L sign will be placed on the building. He noted that the City sees the U of L as an anchor tenant on the block. The U of L's position as the largest employer in the City means the University has an obligation to the health of the downtown core. Chris Horbachewski was congratulated for his persistence in the negotiation to secure the building for the U of L.

3.1 Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) Funding

A news release about a recent CFI funding announcement for multi-departmental epigenetics research was distributed and is filed with these minutes. Vice-President (Research) Dennis Fitzpatrick added that the maximum that could be applied for through this program was \$3.4 million. The University asked for \$3.2 million and was successful. In the primarily undergraduate category only four applications were successful. Chris Nicol and Nancy Walker were given credit for their support of the application. The Board recognized that this was a remarkable success for the University and congratulated Dennis Fitzpatrick for the work in bringing to realization the largest CFI grant ever for the U of L.

It was noted that matching funds from the Province are yet to be confirmed but it seems likely.

3.2 Stadium Project

The \$1.3 million Provincial Government funding for the Stadium Project will be officially announced on June 27, 2009. The Honourable Lindsay Blackett, Minister of Culture and Community Spirit, will be on campus to make the announcement.

It was reported there is a picture of the President on Facebook tossing the first football at the new stadium.

3.3 Bow Valley College

Bill Cade and Richard Westlund attended the groundbreaking at the new site of Bow Valley College. The U of L is investigating opportunities to use part of that building and Bow Valley College is very enthusiastic about that partnership. A memorandum of understanding has been signed between Bow Valley College and the University of Lethbridge for the U of L to use space and for the two institutions to work towards an academic partnership. Andrew Hakin and Nancy Walker have worked on the academic and space areas respectively.

3.4 Nancy Walker Canadian Association University Business Officers (CAUBO) Outstanding Contribution Award

The President announced that U of L Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Nancy Walker was awarded the peer recognition CAUBO Outstanding Contribution Award at the CAUBO annual conference. Nancy Walker was recognized for her contributions to numerous CAUBO committees. She continues to be involved on committees and is an unwavering advocate of the organization.

In addition to CAUBO service, the Outstanding Contribution Award also recognizes the excellent service and best practices of Ms. Walker's work at the University of Lethbridge. Most recently, Walker co-chaired the University's 2009-2013 Strategic Planning Committee; the plan that identifies the University's goals and objectives for the next five years.

Serving the University of Lethbridge for 19 years, Walker is undeniably an expert in her field and colleagues across the country turn to her for leadership and guidance.

3.5 30th Canadian Symposium on Remote Sensing Conference

June 22-25, 2009 there were approximately 200 delegates attending this outstanding conference where the researchers had hands-on, ground level experiences at the University of Lethbridge. Canadian Remote Sensing Society (CRSS) were very excited to be at the U of L for their event.

3.6 Dan Otte Symposium – June 15-17, 2009

The Dan Otte Symposium, a celebration of the achievements of Dr. Dan Otte, Dr. Cade's former Professor, was held on campus. Conference Services were recognized for the excellent job they did that contributed to the success of the event. Dr. Cade reported that several conference participants commented on the beauty of the University, the city and surrounding area.

3.7 Alberta Economic Development Authority (AEDA)

President Cade is a member of the AEDA Board. The AEDA Board is presenting a report on water and sustainability to the Honourable Rob Renner, Minister, Alberta Environment.

3.8 Town Hall Meeting, June 11, 2009 U of L 2009-2010 budget

Bill Cade, Andrew Hakin and Nancy Walker hosted a town hall meeting for the University community in the U of L theatre. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information on budgetary issues. It was stressed that the University is not in a financial crisis situation nor an emergency but it is certainly a difficult budget situation that requires careful, active management. Good comments and questions were received at the meeting. Those attending seemed to appreciate the open way pending budget difficulties were explained. A tentative revised budget will come to the Board in October that reflects 0% Provincial grant increase beginning in 2010-2011.

3.9 Letter from Parent

Bill Cade shared excerpts of a letter from parents who spoke highly of staff at the University who helped facilitate their daughter being able to take exams at an alternate time due to illness. The parents expressed gratitude for the dedicated staff, excellent professor and the consideration given their family member. The parents added that this is why they chose the U of L for their daughter. The Board Chair remarked that the Board Retreat provided an opportunity for Board members to meet staff who reflected the attitude the parents encountered.

Dr. Fitzpatrick excused himself from the meeting at this point.

4. ITEMS FOR ACTION

4.1 Draft Financial Statements for the Year Ended March 31, 2009

MOTION: opn.2009.06.02

Bourke/Jong

That the Board of Governors approve the University of Lethbridge, draft financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2009.

Motion: Carried

4.1.1 Financial Statement Presentation

Nancy Walker commended Carrie Takeyasu for her excellent work on the year-end audit. Nancy Walker provided a thorough explanation of the financial statements. She pointed out that the Auditor General has given an unqualified audit opinion on the statements. Nancy Walker pointed out the significant change in the Statement of Financial Position is the realized investment loss of \$11.7 million. Another major change is in the area of employee future benefits. Long-term liabilities increased from \$14 million in fiscal year 2007-08 to \$16 million in 2008-09. The UAPP unfunded liability is booked this year and the previous year's financial statement was adjusted for this.

It was explained that the University's Knowledge Infrastructure Program application was unsuccessful but there is hope for success in a second round. \$21 million was sought but the Province has indicated they will not provide any new money. It had been hoped that Phase 1 of the Water Building would have been acceptable as the required Provincial Match but this was not the case.

4.1.2 Financial Highlights 2008-09

4.1.3 Analytical Review – Financial Position

4.1.4 Analytical Review -- Revenue

4.1.5 Analytical Review – Expenses

4.1.6 Understanding Financial Statements

4.1.7 Audit Committee Annual Report

Items 4.1.1 through 4.1.7 were received for information.

The Board Chair thanked Carrie Takeyasu and her staff for excellent job

4.2 Capital Priorities – BLIMS Submission May 2009

MOTION: opn.2009.06.04

Bourke/Nugent

That the Board of Governors approve the 2009-2018 Priority Capital Projects for submission to the Provincial Government.

Motion: Carried

4.3 Board of Governors Meeting Schedule 2009-2010

The November Finance and Executive Committee meetings will be held November 4, 2009. In order that the new President can be included in the annual retreat, it will be held late September or early October of 2010.

MOTION: opn.2009.06.05

Jong/Nugent

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Board of Governors Meeting Schedule September 2009 to August 2010.

Motion: Carried

4.4 University Scholars

Heidi MacDonald left the room for this item.

MOTION: opn.2009.06.06

Cade/McArthur

That the Board of Governors appoint the following individuals as University Scholars for a two-year term, effective July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011.

Dr. Judith Kulig (University Scholar – Health Sciences)
Dr. Heidi MacDonald (University Scholar – Humanities)
Dr. Marc Roussel (University Scholar – Sciences)
Dr. Mahfooz Ansari (University scholar – Management)

Motion: Carried

Bill Cade recognized that these are all accomplished, outstanding individuals. The process is that nominations are called and reviewed by an internal committee and externally in some cases.

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1 Personal Security Committee -- Annual Report

Bill Cade reviewed the Annual Personal Security Committee report adding that this is a relatively happy and stable campus. He expressed disappointment that the bullying session was not well attended.

6. VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

Andrew Hakin reviewed the report that was distributed both electronically and provided at the meeting. The report is filed with these minutes. Andy congratulated Heidi MacDonald on being named a University Scholar.

7. VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION)

Nancy Walker referred to the report included in the agenda package. She extended an invitation to the Board to attend the Dragon Boat races this weekend. Andrew Hakin captains one of the U of L teams.

8. VICE-PRESIDENT (ADVANCEMENT)

Chris Horbachewski reviewed the report distributed both electronically and at the meeting. The report is filed with these minutes.

The Alumni Association approved the establishment of an Edmonton Chapter. This will be led by Kelly Kennedy. A wine and cheese reception and meeting have been scheduled at the Edmonton campus in September. There are approximately 2,000 Alumni in Edmonton. About 30 individuals have expressed interest in becoming involved. It was noted that several Edmonton Alumni have never been to the Lethbridge campus. Mr. Turner remarked that it will take some work to build a robust Edmonton Chapter but it will be a worthwhile investment.

9. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Richard Davidson referred to the report included in the agenda materials. He was impressed with the quality of Honorary Degree recipients. There was a mix of local, national and international people from a variety of sectors. These new awards will bring honor and recognition to the University. He reiterated how well Convocation runs and credited the Registrar's office staff for the great job they do every year.

10. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

There were no Board member reports.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2009.06.07

Jong/Nugent

That the June 25, 2009 open session of the Board of
Governors meeting be adjourned.

Motion: Carried