

**MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**OPEN SESSION HELD THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2002 AT 1:30**  
**AT THE CROWSNEST CENTRE**

Present: Terry Royer (Chair), Linda Anderson, Lawrence Barany, Bill Cade, Dawna Coslovi, Geoff Cox, Aaron Engen, John Gray, Raina Jogia, Kevin Keith, Jill Kotkas, Dan Laplante, Doug Stokes, Melanee Thomas, Don Young, Rita Zaugg (Secretary)

Regrets: Mike Crowe, Gordon Dixon, Jim Horsman, Gord Rosko, Ian Wishaw,

Others: Seamus O'Shea, Vice-President (Academic) and Provost  
Nancy Walker, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)  
Ken Balmer, ReThink

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Terry welcomed two new Board members. Melanee Thomas was recently elected as Students' Union president and Raina Jogia, was elected Board representative by the Students' Union.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Approval of the May 9, 2002 Agenda**
2. **Approval of the March 21, 2002 Open Session Minutes**

MOTION: opn.2002.05.01

Kotkas/Keith

That the Consent Agenda be approved with the addition of  
91.1.1 One-time and Continuing Budget Allocations

Motion: Carried

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**3. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS**

**3.1 Confidentiality Agreement and Conflict of Interest Acknowledgment**

Terry Royer asked Board members to sign and return the Confidentiality Agreement and Conflict of Interest Acknowledgment forms which were distributed to them. He reminded the Board that both of these matters are referred to in the By-laws of the Board of Governors and the signing of the forms ensures that Board members acknowledge their responsibilities in these matters.

**3.2 Building Bridges**

The first "Building Bridges" event is scheduled for the Calgary Petroleum Club on June 7, 2002, co-hosted by Gwyn Morgan. Twenty-two of the leading Calgary business people have been invited. The focus will be to let them know about the University of Lethbridge and what we do and to hear from them how we can do it better.

#### **4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

##### **4.1 NSERC, SSHRC and CIHR Competition Results**

Bill Cade reported that it has been a successful year by all measures, but in particular, a number of faculty and staff have won awards. The University of Lethbridge faculty did well in the recent awarding of NSERC grants. The President was pleased to report that his NSERC grant was renewed which makes it about 25 years he has been an NSERC grant holder. The University was not as successful as hoped with the SSHRC granting council and administration is looking at ways to enhance the success with that body. Assistant Professor of Kinesiology, Mike Robidoux, received a SSHRC grant for research into First Nations hockey in Canada. A number of leading newspapers covered a story on his research into the role that parents play in enhancing violence at hockey games.

Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medication Research (AHFMR) has been very good to the University since we have very strong researchers in this area. The Canadian Centre for Behavioural Neuroscience was partly funded by AHFMR. AHFMR recently announced a major research award to Dr. Gerlinda Metz, a University of Lethbridge neuroscientist. Dr. Metz investigates the environmental and physiological aspects of Parkinson's disease by studying the effects of stress, body temperature, exercise and drug treatments on motor performance.

##### **4.2 Award Winning Video**

An educational video series that explains climate change and its affects on the environment, which was co-produced by U of L researchers, won "best educational" production award at the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Alberta Motion Picture Industry Association awards dinner, which took place in Edmonton on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The production team included Jim Byrne and Dawna Cerney of the Geography Department and Rick Mrazek, Faculty of Education, along with George Gallant of Gallant Productions Inc.

##### **4.3 Dean of Faculty of Management**

Dr. John Usher has been appointed the new Dean of Management. He has an undergraduate degree from General Motors University, a Masters of Business Administration and Ph.D. in organizational behaviour from the University of Toronto. His prior appointment was as Associate Dean, Graduate Programs and Research in the Faculty of Business Administration at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Bill Cade pointed out that the appointment of senior administrators is the responsibility of the Board. In the absence of a regular Board meeting the Executive was polled to approve the appointment. The President noted that there was a great deal of support for the appointment of Dr. Usher within the Faculty of Management and the Salary, Tenure and Promotion Committee unanimously recommended his appointment as a full professor with tenure.

**4.4 Convocation**

The 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary convocation May 25 will see President *Emeritus* Sam Smith presiding at two of the ceremonies. Kathleen Hunter, the first employee of the University will also sit on the stage. The Alumni Association is sponsoring a registration for Homecoming, a wine and cheese reception and a showing of archival photos. There will also be tours of campus and a dinner and dance.

**4.5** President Cade reported that he has been attending the Canadian Society of Zoologists Conference which is currently underway on campus. The conference includes a tour of the McIntyre Ranch, which he will participate in at the conclusion of the Board retreat. John Acorn, host of the popular TV show "The Nature Nut" presented a free public lecture on Wednesday, May 8 in the Yates Theatre as part of the Conference.

**4.6 Senior Administrator Appointments**

Committees are being struck according to General Faculties Council (GFC) regulations to make recommendations on reappointments of senior administrators. University Librarian, Barbara Marshalsay, has indicated she will not seek a renewed term, so a full search will be undertaken. It is likely that the services of a search consultant will be used.

**4.7 Year End Difficulties**

The Students' Union "Last Class Bash" caused some difficulty. There were complaints of disruption to classes and overcrowding of the ballroom. The Zoo manager was available and quickly reduced the numbers to the acceptable level. A meeting has been held with the Students' Union liaison group to address the issues. Bill Cade indicated that there are very few alcohol related problems on campus. The Students' Union building is their building; however it is on University land and it is the University's liquor license. Nancy Walker will continue working with the Students' Union over the next few months to improve education on responsible alcohol use.

Bill Cade reported that a young, male student fell over the rail on level 9 of University Hall to level 8 when he took a running start to spit on his friends below. He suffered serious injuries but has recovered. He was saved from falling to the 4<sup>th</sup> level when he hit the railing on level 8 and was propelled to land on level 8. Another level of railing may be installed to try to minimize the risk of reoccurrence; however, further review is being done on the stairwell railings to determine what is the best way. Dawna Coslovi pointed out that the roof of the Physical Education building often has people playing on it and there is a potential for a fall. It was acknowledged that this has been an ongoing problem and the design of the building does not lend itself to a solution.

**4.8 National Association of University Board Chairs and Secretaries (NAUBCS)**  
Bill Cade led a session on Ensuring and Structuring Technological Transfers in a University at the NAUBCS conference in Quebec City. With the exception of the host university president, Bill Cade was the only university president in attendance. Terry Royer added that he was very proud of Bill Cade's presentation and congratulated him for representing the Board very well. Terry Royer reported this is the second year the U of L attended this conference. Attendance at the conference confirmed the U of L is clearly among the best. The issues and challenges are the same for all universities, for the most part. The U of L is ahead of several Canadian universities in many areas. Terry Royer remarked it is good to know we are further ahead than we may realize.

**4.9 Hokkai-Gakuen**  
Bill Cade reported that he recently spoke at the opening of term ceremonies at both the Sapporo and Kitami campuses of Hokkai-Gakuen University, at the invitation of the Chair of the Hokkai-Gakuen Board of Governors, Dr. Morimoto. Dr. David Atkinson, President of Brock University also participated. The exchange between the University of Lethbridge and Hokkai-Gakuen is approximately 23 years old and includes both faculty and students. Dr. Lance Grigg is currently in Sapporo as the exchange professor from the University of Lethbridge.

**5. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

The Chancellor was unavailable.

**6. STUDENTS' UNION PRESIDENT REPORT**

Melanee Thomas thanked the Board for their warm welcome. She reported that the Students' Union will be preparing for the fall over the summer and she is concentrating on learning the job. She will be attending meetings in preparation for federal lobbying. Due to these commitments, she will be unable to attend the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events, but Raina Jogia, the newly elected student representative on the Board, will attend. She mentioned she is very excited to be on the Board and very much enjoying her new role as Students' Union President.

**7. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no items arising from the minutes.

**8. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

**8.1 Board Meeting Schedule Sept. 2002-Aug. 2003**

MOTION: opn.2002.05.02

Cade/Gray

That the September 2002-August 2003 Board Meeting Schedule be approved as distributed.

Motion: Carried

**9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**9.1 Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee met Tuesday, May 7 and reviewed the March 31 draft financial statements. A small year-end surplus is anticipated. The final figures will be done for the June meeting of the Finance and Audit Committees. John Gray reported that the Finance Committee discussed LINC self financing. Andy Dawson of COMSTAT Capital Science, who does compliance review on the investment manager, reported. For the most part, over the 4-year history with Jarislowsky Fraser (JF), they have been in compliance with the policy as it relates to investment selection and returns. U.S. equities and bonds were slightly off the benchmarks but overall returns were relatively strong.

**9.1.1 One-time and Continuing Budget Allocations**

A proposed motion and background information was distributed and is filed with these minutes. It was noted that these allocations form part of the budget which was previously approved by the Board. The allocations have been reviewed by the Deans and the Budget committee which recommends their approval.

The allocations include \$250,000 to Health Sciences on an ongoing basis to alleviate some of the underfunding in that unit. The Deans supported the allocation to Health Sciences of unfunded enrolment growth money from the Province. This was very positive, since it showed the Dean's taking an institutional view rather than a narrow, individual unit view. Some of the one-time items were identified through the strategic planning process. It was initially thought the unfunded enrolment money would be \$400,000 but it was \$272,000.

It was noted that these items normally are presented with the regular budget but this year the Government money for unfunded students and grant amounts were not available at the time the budget was presented. There was also some uncertainty due to the budget process review. It was pointed out that the one-time expenses are intended to improve efficiency. Continuing expenditures are from

money that is continuing. Additional money to fully fund the Health Sciences program is being sought from the Department of Learning. Some of the items on the continuing list are not discretionary; i.e. the Oracle maintenance agreement and site licensing, which is a key element for ongoing library service, and more needs to be contributed to scholarships. Séamus O'Shea explained that if fees are increased, more will need to be contributed to scholarships; however, the University does not have the resources now. One option is to do fundraising specifically for scholarships. He noted that funding of scholarships out of the budget is respectable when compared to peers, but donations for endowed scholarships is somewhat weak. The U of L does not yet enjoy a high level of Alumni support. Jill Kotkas reported that the Alumni Association is reviewing their scholarships to determine why scholarships which have been endowed have not been awarded. The criteria for those scholarships is also being reviewed. She expects to be able to give a full report at the next Board meeting. Jill Kotkas remarked that no doubt the Alumni Association needs to do a major push and hopefully scholarships will be a focus in the coming year.

In speaking of the School of Health Sciences, Séamus O'Shea explained that the nursing program is still the largest part of that unit. The U of L program was intended as a two-year program for R.N.s with experience. Students were expected to be strong clinicians since the program was to have a sociological approach. The situation has since changed and students do not have the anticipated level of clinical skills and it is proving costly to bridge this gap. Dean Wall has revised the curriculum and it is now very strong. The Addictions Counseling program, the only one of its kind in the country, will see its 3<sup>rd</sup> graduating class this year. A proposal is now in front of Government to double the Addictions Counseling program. Séamus O'Shea expressed optimism that the expansion will be funded.

MOTION:     opn.2002.05.03

Gray/Kotkas

That the Board of Governors approve the proposed one-time and continuing budget allocations as presented.

Motion: Carried

**10.     VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)**

Séamus O'Shea reported that faculty did very well with the granting councils and two students received the prestigious Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Julie Payette Scholarship, valued at \$25,000 per year for two years. The winners were Robbin Gibb (Psychology and Neuroscience, Ph.D. program) and Russell Goodman (Physics/Biochemistry). Three of the last 24 Julie Payette awards were received by U of L students. A near record number of students will be graduating at May Convocation.

The employee long-service awards and retirement recognition event was held May 1. Dr. Neil Little of the Kinesiology Department received his 35 year award. He is the longest serving employee in the University's history. Séamus O'Shea was awarded a watch for 25 years of service.

Dean's Council passed a motion thanking directors for what has been a significant year for the University of Lethbridge. The Deans also passed a motion to support the School of Health Sciences with an allocation from the unfunded enrolment funds.

This is a very busy time for hiring new faculty. About  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the tenure track positions available last year were filled but anticipate only about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the positions this year will be filled due to increased competition. Nonetheless, the U of L is still attracting very good people. Most applicants will have at least one or two other offers. Factors impacting the ability to hire include a higher teaching load at the U of L than at other institutions, and the size of the city may be less attractive to people from larger centres, particularly single women. It is important that those hired want to be here. Another factor is that some other institutions are able to offer large start-up dollars than are unavailable here.

#### **11. VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION)**

Nancy Walker reported the following:

- The audit process is underway and going well.
- Board members were encouraged to attend the long service and retirement event in the future.
- Library renovations are going well.
- An indirect research cost grant of \$800,00 has been received from Industry Canada. The money will be allocated to library resources, utilities, and planning money for a science building. However, if the grant is continuing, the allocation plan may be adjusted.
- Nancy Walker indicated she will be working with the Students' Union over the summer on a safe drinking program to start in September. She noted the Students' Union was very receptive to the idea.

#### **12. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Dan Laplante brought it to the attention of the Board that the Calgary Herald had an announcement about the U of C faculty of management hosting a conference on mergers and acquisitions in Calgary, June 6-9. The U of L Faculty of Management is listed among the conference sponsors. He also pointed out that Linda Luu, a University of Lethbridge Management student, was featured in the May issue of Alberta Venture magazine. Ms. Luu had the winning submission in the 2002 CGA-Alberta Student Business Plan Competition. A letter of congratulations will be sent on behalf of the Board of Governors.

Jill Kotkas reported that she worked three nights in a phoneathon to encourage alumni to come to

the May 25 events celebrating the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. She remarked that feedback was tremendous and she felt things are moving forward to get financial support from alumni. People have great respect for the Board Chair and the President, which enhances interest in coming to campus and supporting what is happening here.

Dawna Coslovi reported that the Green Acres Foundation will sponsor a University of Lethbridge scholarship this fall.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: opn.2002.05.04

Laplante/Stokes

That the Open session of the May 9, 2002 meeting of the Board of Governors be adjourned.

Motion: Carried