

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
OPEN SESSION HELD THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2005
AT 1:00 P.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM (W646)

- Present: Terry Royer (Chair), Bill Cade, Kevin Keith, John Gill, Dan Laplante, Karen Bartsch, Guy McNab, Myles Bourke, Derek Peddle, Grant Pisko, Linda Anderson, Doug Stokes, Aaron Engen, Dean Setoguchi, Robert Turner, Kelly Kennedy, Rita Zaugg (Secretary)
- Regrets: Tyler Tanner, Sharon Holtman, Preston Williams, Shirley DeBow, Tom Robinson
- Others: Nancy Walker, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Seamus O'Shea, Vice-President (Academic) and Provost
Chris Horbachewski, Vice-President (Advancement)
Andrew Hakin, Associate Vice-President (Academic)

Kelly Kennedy, who was elected by the student body as their nominee to the Board of Governors, was introduced by Terry Royer and presented with a Board of Governors pin as is the tradition. Bill Cade welcomed Kelly Kennedy on behalf of the administration and Shirley deBow welcomed him on behalf of the Senate.

Seamus O'Shea introduced Dr. Andy Hakin who was recently appointed by the Board to the position of Associate Vice-President (Academic).

Millennium Scholars were introduced and certificates presented.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1.1 Approval of the November 17, 2005 Open Session Agenda**
1.2 Approval of the October 13, 2005 Open Session Minutes

MOTION: opn.2005.11.01

Engen/Turner

That the consent agenda for the November 17, 2005 meeting of the Board of Governors Open Session be approved with the addition of item 5.1 Psychology and Neuroscience.

Motion: Carried

2. Academic Presentation

Seamus O'Shea introduced Professor Lynn Kennedy a faculty member in the History Department. Professor Kennedy recently received the Lerner-Scott Prize for her dissertation, Partus Sequitur Ventrem: Narratives of Childbirth and Motherhood in the Antebellum South. Lynn was then invited to make a presentation to the Board, which is filed with these minutes.

Terry Royer noted that these types of academic presentations are a direct outcome of the Board self-evaluation questionnaire.

It was suggested that the Board of Governors have presenters from the Faculty of Management and School of Health Sciences at a future Board meeting.

3. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

3.1 Satellite Imaging Centre

The opening of the new Satellite Imaging Centre was well attended and received good press. The Premier attended and spoke extensively about the Water Research Centre, and also took the opportunity to talk about the new Management Building.

3.2 Premier's Dinner

Several people from the University of Lethbridge, including Board members, attended the recent Premier's dinner in Lethbridge.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

4.1 Globe and Mail Report Card

The University of Lethbridge scored high grades from its students, and was the only Alberta post-secondary educational institution to receive an A ranking in the "Overall Quality of Education" category.

4.2 MACLEANS Rankings

The University of Lethbridge went down one ranking from 12th to 13th place. It is believed that the temporary increase in class sizes during the construction on campus had some impact.

4.3 Nancy Walker, President of CAUBO

Bill Cade congratulated Nancy Walker in her new position as President of CAUBO. He noted that an article was written on Nancy in the Fall issue of the University Manager, and is included in the Agenda.

4.4 Minister's Forum

Bill Cade, Jim Horsman, Seamus O'Shea, Tyler Tanner, Shirley DeBow, and Peter McCormick attended the recent Minister's Forum in Edmonton. There were also delegates representing students with disabilities, immigrants and francophones. During the forum the Minister referred to a tuition increase, and

the next day the Premier said there was going to be a tuition freeze. These two conflicting announcements left some uncertainty about what will happen.

4.5 Death of a Student

Bill Cade reported that the University flags are at half staff due to the recent death of a student in a car accident.

Bill Cade mentioned that a tour of the Faculty of Management was arranged for today but was cancelled due to the very full agenda and the former Board dinner following the meeting.

It was reported that the Honourable Clint Dunford, MLA for Lethbridge West is fighting a battle with cancer. He is hopeful and has expressed his desire to continue his work in Government as much as possible during treatment. A letter of support and best wishes has been sent.

5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1 Psychology and Neuroscience

MOTION: opn.2005.11.02

Cade/McNab

That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of General Faculties Council and approve the division of the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience into two academic units: The Department of Psychology and The Department of Neuroscience, effective July 1, 2006. The Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science will supervise the orderly implementation of the division.

Motion: Carried

Seamus O'Shea indicated that there has been significant growth in the Faculty of Arts and Science over recent years. A number of departments have grown disproportionately, including the Psychology and Neuroscience Department. The University of Lethbridge has a very strong Neuroscience section of department which has been moved to a separate building to accommodate the needs of the animals used in research. The Psychology part of the department remains in University Hall. This separation within the department provides an opportunity to have two departments typical of the size of other

departments in Arts and Science. This division is a good move from the academic point of view, a natural progression of the sciences and consistent with what is happening across North America.

6. VICE-PRESIDENT (ADVANCEMENT) REPORT

6.1 BMO Financial Group Major Gift

An announcement was made on November 8 regarding a major gift of \$250,000 from BMO Financial Group, payable over 5 years. Chris Horbachewski thanked those who were able to attend the event. The level of support at the event sends a strong message to the donor that the donation is appreciated.

Mr. Horbachewski indicated a commitment is anticipated soon from the one remaining major bank.

7. VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC) REPORT

7.1 Minister's Forum

Seamus O'Shea added that at the end of the Minister's Forum, the Minister made commitments to several initiatives, one being strengthening and enhancing learning foundations and diversity, another being supporting Aboriginal learning needs, and another focusing on rural and community issues.

7.2 Dennis Fitzpatrick

Dennis Fitzpatrick has been appointed to the Board of Genome Alberta.

8. VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION) REPORT

8.1 Capital Decision

Nancy Walker added that all capital decisions for post-secondary institutions now rest with Advanced Education rather than Infrastructure. She felt this was a good transition since Advanced Education are more aware and have a better understanding of the University's needs.

8.2 Tuition Fees

No announcements have been made regarding tuition for the next year. The Minister is meeting with the Premier and we hope to hear soon.

8.3 Bookstore Christmas Tree

The staff in the University of Lethbridge bookstore decorated a Christmas tree for the hospital fundraising auction. The tree sold for \$4,100, which was the highest bid of the night.

8.4 Power Contracts

Aaron Engen reported that power prices range from \$0.85/kwh to \$1.10/kwh but thanks to Nancy Walker who renegotiated the contract, the U of L pays \$0.53/kwh.

8.5 Health and Wellness Centre

The Health and Wellness Centre student referendum was a significant accomplishment and will result in a significant contribution from the students. Nancy noted that there was an excellent voter turnout.

8.6 United Way Calendars

United Way cash calendars are now available and can be purchased for \$20.

9. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

A written report was received for information.

10. STUDENTS' UNION REPORT

There was no report from the Students' Union.

11. GRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION REPORT

There was no report from the Graduate Students Association.

12. ALUMNI REPORT

John Gill commented that the recent Convocation ceremony was very successful, including the recognition of the Alumnus of the Year, Ray Romses. Following Convocation, the Alumni Association along with University Advancement initiated efforts to contact new alumni. A letter went to all new grads, signed by John Gill.

John Gill wrote a letter to the Students' Union expressing appreciation of their support in approving the Regional Health and Wellness Centre referendum.

The alumni support category of the MACLEANS rankings are of some concern. It was pointed out that the ranking is not based on the dollar amount but rather on the percentage of alumni contributing. It does not measure the good will and pride alumni have for their institution. The Alumni Association is working with the University Advancement office measures financial support. It is recognized that this report measures financial gifts rather than good will and pride. John mentioned that he is working with the University Advancement office to improve the response rate.

One possibility mentioned was to seek a donation from each person in the graduating classes going forward. This gets the students in the spirit of giving from the beginning. The competitive spirit could also be developed among graduating classes or faculties.

Alumni relations is a priority in the redesign of the University Advancement office. Chris Horbachewski indicated it is important to ask alumni for donations and John Gill has been supportive in creating a more formal alumni donor program. Dan Laplante added that the alumni component is critical to the success of the campaign. An affinity program is being investigated as one of the services that could be provided to alumni.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2005.11.03

Peddle/McNab

That the Open Session of the November 17, 2005 meeting of the Board of Governors be adjourned.

Motion: Carried