

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
OPEN SESSION HELD THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2004 AT 1:30 P.M.
IN THE BOARD ROOM (W646)

Present: Terry Royer (Chair), Linda Anderson, Bill Cade, Derek Peddle, Shirley DeBow, Robert Turner, Kevin Keith, Doug McArthur, Guy McNab, Grant Pisko, Preston Williams, Lorelee Edwards, Aaron Engen, Tom Robinson, Doug Stokes, Myles Bourke, Rita Zaugg (Secretary)

Regrets: Dan Laplante, Gordon Rosko, Sharon Holtman

Others: Séamus O'Shea, Vice-President (Academic) and Provost
Nancy Walker, Vice-President (Finance & Administration)
David Green, student Board member nominee elect
Tania Smith, University of Calgary researcher

Tom Robinson and David Green were introduced and welcomed as new Board members and presented with the traditional U of L pin.

Dr. Tania Smith from the University of Calgary was introduced. Bill Cade explained that Dr. Smith is attending as an observer as part of her research project dealing with the governance process at universities.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

1.1 Approval of the October 14, 2004 Open Session Agenda

1.2 Approval of the June 17, 2004 Open Session Minutes

MOTION: opn.2004.10.01

McNab/Anderson

That the Consent Agenda for the October 14, 2004 Open Session be approved.

Motion: Carried

2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

The Board Chair's written report was received for information.

The Chair added that Alice Hontela and Dan Johnson spoke very well at the World President's Organization conference. He thanked Séamus O'Shea for facilitating this process and for his efforts in making sure the information on water research was heard.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bill Cade announced that Will Long-Time Squirrel recently passed away. Will had a long history of support for the University as a student and an employee. Bill Cade mentioned that he would be attending the Wake at the Blood Reserve tomorrow.

3.1 "What Price Education"

Bill Cade referred to the article enclosed in the agenda, which explains the consequences of the tuition freeze in Ontario, and suggested this was important information to consider in the Alberta context.

3.2 Campus Alberta Quality Control Council

This Council has been established to review proposals from post-secondary institutions that wish to offer new degree programs. Bill Cade noted that this group carries high standards, and expressed his confidence in the strength of the Council.

3.3 Millennium Scholarships

The Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation provided almost \$2 million in scholarships and bursaries to University of Lethbridge students in the 2003/2004 academic year. A benefactor provided some of the funding.

3.4 Alberta Learning Access Fund Grants

Bill Cade expressed gratitude to Séamus O'Shea for his work in getting an adjustment to the initial proposal from Alberta Learning. The initial intent was to calculate the growth beginning in 2002-2003. Séamus O'Shea presented an analysis to Alberta Learning that convinced them to begin the calculation in 1998-1999. This additional funding will likely mean no budget reductions will be required next year.

3.5 Economic Impact Press Conference

Bill Cade referred to the Economic Impact news conference, which took place earlier in the day. The University of Lethbridge *Community Report* was also launched at that time. 260,000 copies of the report were distributed over the weekend through newspapers in Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, and Medicine Hat.

The representative of Rick Casson, MP, read the following statement at the news conference, which is the text of a message Mr. Casson read in the House:

When fall returns to southern Alberta, students at The University of Lethbridge and Lethbridge Community College return as well.

With 7800 students at the University and over 5000 at the College, these combined numbers have a huge positive impact on Lethbridge and southern Alberta, increasing the population of the City of Lethbridge by 10 to 15 percent. These students contribute to the betterment of southern Alberta in many ways.

The financial impact of these two institutions and their respective student bodies is substantial. Our community is also enriched by the incredible community involvement of these two respected and renowned venues of higher learning.

Both institutions are led by quality people, Dr. Donna Allen, President of the College, and Dr. Bill Cade, President of the university, have positioned their institutions well to serve their respective student bodies and the community at large.

To the U of L and the LCC, keep up the good work. The students from near and far that walk through your doors are the leaders, movers and shakers of the not too distant future. We are in good hands.

3.6 Globe and Mail

The October 13, 2004 issue of the *Globe and Mail* contained a “University Report Card” which was the compilation of opinions of current undergraduates. The University of Lethbridge ranked high in the education category, yet suffered in the student services category, particularly in the area of health services and food services. Bill Cade mentioned that both of these areas are being looked into for improvements.

3.7 ASTech Awards

Bill Cade mentioned that he will be attending the ASTech awards tomorrow night, where Bryan Kolb is a finalist for the Alberta Leader in Science award. Bill noted that he has a great deal of optimism for Dr. Kolb’s success. A letter was recently received from Chaviva Hock from the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, congratulating Bryan Kolb on his work.

3.8 Academic All Canadians

Thirty-eight University of Lethbridge students have been named Academic All Canadians this year. A recognition event will be held in the near future.

3.9 Matthew McHugh

Former Students’ Union President Matthew McHugh was the winner of a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship, which he chose to use for study at the University of Port Elizabeth in Africa. Matthew McHugh sent photos, which will be posted on the Rotary Club website.

3.10 Eric Newell

Bill Cade recently attended a recognition event for Eric Newell held by the Conference Board of Canada. Mr. Newell spoke of the importance of education, specifically within universities, to the future of Alberta. The University of Lethbridge was well represented at the dinner, as well as prominently featured as one of only two universities that were sponsors.

4. VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC) REPORT

4.1 Student Enrolment

The September enrolment count is just under 7,800 students, with more than 6,800 on the Lethbridge Campus. On-campus registration is up 5.5% from last year. There were 1,104 students directly from high school and 1,157 new transfer students. The 628 international students reaches the GFC target of 7% for the first time in many years and includes about 50 exchange students.

4.2 Native Transitions and Niitsitapi Programs Status Report

The Native Transitions program and the Niitsitapi teacher training program, in collaboration with Red Crow College, are off to a good start and running well. It is possible that with the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta, a joint proposal may be made for continuing funding.

4.3 Space Shortages

The University of Lethbridge is still facing issues with shortage of space, particularly for offices and laboratories. This has forced the University to ease up on student recruitment and caused some difficulty for recruitment of faculty. The faculty recruitment numbers are approximately one year behind student numbers. Recruitment of students for the near future has been adjusted to moderate growth until relief is found.

4.4 Student Services

The University of Lethbridge has made a proposition to the provincial government for the development of a system allowing electronic transfer of student transcripts. A demonstration project has been started showing the abilities and benefits of the system. This will also solve the problem of providing confirmation of attendance for various financial award programs.

4.5 SSHRC & NSERC Grant Applications

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) grant applications are due this week, which means faculty are very involved in preparing proposals.

4.6 Community University Research Alliance

Over the summer a Community University Research Alliance was organized to work on the Blackfoot Heritage Project. Séamus O'Shea noted that the project was very successful, and unsolicited letters regarding its success have been received from cabinet members.

4.7 Town Hall Meetings

Bill Cade, Nancy Walker, Séamus O'Shea, and Terry Royer met with seven different groups within the University to review and update the University community on progress and plans of the University. An opportunity was also given for questions at the end of the meetings. Séamus O'Shea mentioned that it seemed to be well received, and the turnout was reasonably good.

5. VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION) REPORT

The report of the Vice-President (Finance & Administration) was received for information.

Nancy Walker added that the Students' Union executive and staff have been responsive to the issues that had arisen with the Students' Union Bar. Tickets are now being sold for Thursday nights to control the numbers. Unfortunately attendance has declined this year, and work is being done to address this. Terry Royer added his compliments on the improved condition of the Students' Union ballroom and the excellent food and service in the Bistro.

Nancy Walker explained that the Diversity Advantage Program referred to in her written report is basically an employment equity program, which is a part of the University's strategic priorities and a requirement of the Federal Contractors grant program. The University of Lethbridge has signed federal government contracts and must show that there is a diversity program in place. There are eleven detailed steps required to be taken. In particular it is necessary to show employment of natives, women, people with disabilities, and visible minorities.

6. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

The report of the Chancellor was received for information.

Shirley DeBow reminded the Board members about the upcoming Fall Convocation to take place on Saturday, October 16, 2004.

Shirley DeBow also reviewed the accomplishments of the Honorary Degree recipient who will be awarded a degree at the Convocation Ceremony.

7. STUDENTS' UNION REPORT

The report of the Students' Union President was received for information.

Loralee Edwards added that the Union Bistro and Bar is now featuring live music and poetry in the evenings. Attendance has been picking up, and the reduction in repairs needed has been significant since the new policies have come into effect, somewhat offsetting the reduced revenue caused by lower attendance at the pubs.

There is a blood drive challenge between the University of Lethbridge and Lethbridge Community College taking place. To help the cause, the Halloween cabaret on campus will offer students a pint of beer for a pint of blood.

The Students' Union food bank is currently collecting non-perishable food items.

The Students' Union is looking into the day care issue with the Alumni Association, LPIRG, and the Women's Centre.

Loralee Edwards reminded the Board members to take the opportunity to book the ballroom for events.

8. GRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION REPORT

The Graduate Students Association has organized information sessions for graduate students to assist them with their teaching responsibilities. David Townsend and Pam Adams ran a workshop with 40-50 students in attendance. There were two sessions over two nights. Similar sessions will be run again in the future.

Preston Williams announced that the Graduate Students Association has rented the Paterson Centre, and will be hosting a social for grad students and their families. The Board members were invited to attend. Preston also mentioned that they will be using this time to encourage students to stand for election.

9. ALUMNI REPORT

The report of the Alumni Association was received for information.

Doug McArthur added that the Faculty of Management Alumni Reconnect Reception will be held on Wednesday, October 27 at 5:00 p.m. at the Lethbridge Lodge. The cost to attend is \$10.00. The Board members were encouraged to attend.

The Calgary chapter is doing their annual theatre evening on October 21 at the Max Bell theatre.

The Scotch Tasting evening will take place November 3 at the Southern Alberta Art Gallery.

The Board members were encouraged to attend the reception of the Alumnus of the Year award on Saturday, October 16 at 1:30 in the Theatre foyer to David Iwassa. His biography will be forwarded to the Board members.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: opn.2004.10.02

Pisko/Keith

That the Open Session of the October 14, 2004 meeting of the Board of Governors be adjourned.

Motion: Carried