



BOARD OF GOVERNORS – OPEN SESSION
Approved Minutes

Thursday, February 13, 2020
1:00 p.m., W646

- Present:** K. Schlachter (Chair), Y. Belanger, R. Casson, J. Elliott, D. Gallimore, A. Gammack, K. Gunn, D. Johnson, H. Labuhn, M. Mahon, J. Merkl, J. Miles, K. Philipp, K. Reid, J. Sheriff, S. Stocker, C. Weaselhead, T. Whitehead
- Regrets:** J. Forrest, A. Hlady, L. Zink
- Other:** J. Gallais, A. Hakin, K. Massey, E. Okine, S. Olson, C. Takeyasu, M. Sawa, A. Tennant, N. Walker, R. Westlund, M. Whipple

Oki, and welcome to the University of Lethbridge. Our University's Blackfoot name is Iniskim, meaning Sacred Buffalo Stone. The University is located in traditional Blackfoot Confederacy territory. We honour the Blackfoot people and their traditional ways of knowing in caring for this land, as well as all Aboriginal peoples who have helped shape and continue to strengthen our University community.

Prior to the start of the Open Session, a presentation was given by Associate Vice-President (Human Resources) A. Tennant and Associate Vice-President (Students) K. Massey on their portfolios. D. Johnson was formally introduced and welcomed as a new member of the Board.

1. CONSENT AGENDA
APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the February 13, 2020 Open Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the December 12, 2019 Open Minutes

MOTION: opn.2020.02.01

Whitehead/Gunn

That the Board of Governors approve the February 13, 2020 Consent Agenda.

Motion: Carried

2. BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

K. Schlachter reported on attending a meeting with MLA Nathan Neudorf in December, as well as a recent meeting with the Board Chair of Yukon College. A reminder was given to Board members regarding the Annual Donor Gala later this evening in Science Commons.

3. CHANCELLOR REPORT

Further to the report, C. Weaselhead noted that he was able to connect with the Volunteer Award recipient and looks forward to sharing the name of the individual with the Board at the April 2020 meeting.

4. **PRESIDENT REMARKS**

M. Mahon reported:

- On December 18, we announced a unique and innovative partnership between the Blackfoot Confederacy, the University of Lethbridge and the Mastercard Foundation, which will support and enable indigenous youth to achieve their goals and become leaders in their communities. The Mastercard Foundation is investing \$15 million to the project over the next five years, with the possibility of an additional five-year commitment. Heather Mirau and Mike Whipple have agreed to be the lead administrators on the project and they will soon commence a search to fill an indigenous lead position;
- Dr. Jackie Rice has been appointed Associate Vice-President (Research) and Dean of School of Graduate Studies for a term beginning March 1;
- Completed the campus budget consultation process, with the final two at the Calgary campus last week. Lots of good feedback was received;
- Along with Chancellor Weaselhead, attended a celebration of life at the end of January for Jason Goodstriker, who was the first indigenous president of the Students' Union;
- Power Corporation of Canada, together with Canada Life, recently announced a \$400,000 donation to the UofL for scientific research within Science Commons;
- Working with Alberta Health Services to communicate regularly with the University community regarding COVID-19 (coronavirus);
- The Dean, Faculty of Arts & Science is progressing and we look to have the process complete in the coming months;
- Look forward to a meeting next week with newly appointed Deputy Minister of Advanced Education Curtis Clarke;
- Unique partnership agreement recently signed between the UofL, Medicine Hat College and Lethbridge College, ensuring that we maximize our collaboration as far as academic programming and administration (ie. Purchasing, IT contracts, etc.)
- Congrats to the Faculty of Fine Arts on the success of Abbondanza, celebrated the Elder Carolla “Napiakii” Calf Robe ceremony room dedication on January 27, both Pronghorn Men’s and Women’s basketball teams made playoffs and will both play home games on Friday;
- Upcoming, we are looking forward to Donor Gala on tonight, opening the doors to the community on PlayDay February 17, International Dinner on February 25, Pronghorn Blue and Gold Dinner April 2, and the Dhillon Scholarship Dinner on April 9.

5. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

5.1.2020-21 Fees & Rates

MOTION: opn.2020.02.02

Labuhn/Gallimore

That the Board of Governors approve the proposed domestic and international tuition fees as outlined in recommendations 1 and 9 – 12 for 2020-2021, with the domestic and international tuition fees for 2021-2022 to 2022-2023 approved in principle.

Motion: Carried (2 opposed Gammack/Miles)

There was a question about the tuition increases and if we are putting ourselves at a competitive disadvantage. C. Takeyasu explained that to our knowledge, other institutions in the province are going to the maximum 7% increase as well, and even with the increase in tuition, we will remain competitive across the country. As 70% of our student population comes from outside of the City of Lethbridge, we remain mindful of living expenses for our students as well.

There was a discussion on lowering our dependence on the Campus Alberta Grant and revenue generating opportunities, including increasing our international student enrolment, south campus development, and different program offerings.

MOTION: opn.2020.02.02

Labuhn/Philipp

That the Board of Governors approve the proposed fees and rates for mandatory non-instructional fees and other fees as outlined in recommendations 2 – 8 and 13 – 58, for 2020-2021, with the mandatory non-instructional fees and rates for 2021-2022 to 2022-2023 approved in principle.

Motion: Carried

A. Gammack highlighted that the proposed increase to Students' Union Health Plan Levy will allow coverage to include much needed mental health services for students.

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1. Audited Student Financial Statements – Students Union

There was a question regarding the increase in premiums payable to the Student Health Plan. A. Gammack reported that the ULSU did not have caps on certain claims, specifically prescription, which led to the increase in the premiums over 2018. The health care provider is small, but they do work with a few other post-secondary institutions. We provide a staff person to help with claims, which helps to keep our costs down. J. Miles added that reviews are conducted on the provider every five years to ensure that we have the lowest rates.

A. Gammack noted that the Students' Union is taking large and strategic steps as an organization in how they operate including increasing marketing and reducing the dependence on student levy fees.

7. REPORTS

7.1. Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

A. Hakin highlighted:

- Enrolment looks strong for Spring 2020;
- Significant increase in enrolment in the School of Liberal Education, up 39% with thanks to Dean Wismath and her team;
- Tier II Canada Research Chair in Organoflourine Chemistry;
- Dr. Richelle Marynowski will replace Dr. Nancy Grigg as Assistant Dean, Undergraduate Programs in the Faculty of Education;
- The Academic Plan has been drafted and is just about ready to be sent to Government for their approval;

- The Government has advised that the Comprehensive Institutional Plan will not be required this year as we are moving to three-year Investment Management Agreements; and
- Encouragement was given to attend the International Dinner on February 25.

7.2. Advancement

M. Mahon highlighted the Donor Gala tonight in Science Commons and encouraged Board members to attend. This year's event will focus on the importance of student scholarships and interdisciplinary research.

7.3. Vice-President (Finance & Administration)

N. Walker had nothing additional to report.

7.4. Vice-President (Research)

E. Okine gave thanks to A. Hakin for spearheading the creation of the Bryan Kolb Professorship/Chair in Neuroscience. The appointment to that position was approved by the Board and begins January 2020. The 10% increase in research funding grant applications in 2019 was highlighted.

7.5. Board Member Reports

On behalf of the University of Lethbridge Alumni Association (ULAA), J. Elliott highlighted the Dinner for 6 program with the PACT Club and gave encouragement to Board members to participate.

A. Gammack gave thanks to the Board for donating \$1175 to the Pass the Hat fundraiser benefiting the Nourish Program and the Students' Union Foodbank. Combined with donations from General Faculties Council and Senate, over \$3500 was raised.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: opn.2020.02.03

Miles/Johnson

That the Board of Governors Open Session meeting of February 13, 2020 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried