



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

Board of Governors Open Session Minutes

Friday, May 10, 2013
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Miodrag (Mike) Belosevic	Board Member (General Faculties Council)
Brent Epperson	President, Graduate Students' Association
Don Fleming	Board Member (Alumni Association)
Douglas Goss	Chair, Board of Governors
Jim Hole	Board Member (Alumni Association)
Agnes Hoveland	Board Member (Public Member)
Shenaz Jeraj	Board Member (Public Member)
Don Matthew	Board Member (Public Member)
Ove Minsos	Board Member (Public Member)
Jerry Naqvi	Board Member (Public Member)
Christopher Pu	Board Member (Non-Academic Staff Association)
Wayne Renke	Board Member (Academic Staff)
Bernd Reuscher	Board Member (Senate)
Indira Samarasekera	President
Robert Teskey	Board Member (Public Member)
Richard Wilson	Board Member (Public Member)
Ralph Young	Chancellor

Non-Voting Officials Approved by the President:

Lorne Babiuk	Vice-President (Research)
Phyllis Clark	Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Martin Ferguson-Pell	Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Marion Haggarty-France	University Secretary
Brad Hamdon	University Counsel
Don Hickey	Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
O'Neil Outar	Vice-President (Advancement)
Debra Pozega Osburn	Vice-President (University Relations)
Colleen Skidmore	Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Academic)

Regrets:

Brent Kelly	Undergraduate Representative to the Board of Governors
Marcia Lang	Chief of Staff and University Relations

Presenters:

Liz Ingram	Distinguished University Professor, Department of Art and Design
Bob Kamp	Chair, Board Investment Committee

Observers:

Petros Kusmu President, Students' Union

Staff:

Deborah Holloway Board Secretary and Manager of Board Services
Juli Zinken Assistant Board Secretary

OPENING SESSION

1. Chair's Session

1.1 Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum

Ms Holloway confirmed that the attendance constituted quorum. The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

1.2 Approval of Open Session Agenda

The motion was moved and seconded.

Discussion:

The Chair noted that Item 4.1 "Fraud and Irregularity Reporting Procedure" had been withdrawn

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Open Session Agenda, as circulated.

CARRIED as amended

1.3 Conflict of Interest – Opportunity for Declaration related to Agenda

The Chair made note of the following:

- The University of Alberta has policy and procedure in place for Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment, and Board members make annual disclosures.
- In addition, Board members must declare any conflict related to the Board Agenda of each meeting and, in the event of such conflict, absent themselves from the discussion and voting on the item.
- The *Post-Secondary Learning Act*, Section 16(5) states that: *The members of the board must act in the best interests of the university.*

The Chair invited members to declare conflicts of interest related to the Open Session Agenda of the meeting. The Chair observed no declarations and declared that the question was duly asked and answered.

1.4 Chair's Remarks

The Chair recognized and thanked the following retiring Board and External Committee members for their contributions: Dr Ashlyn Bernier; Mr Jim Hole, Mr Colten Yamagishi, Ms Kelly Baptista Wyatt; and Mr Brian Hesje. He noted that Mr Brent Epperson, President, Graduate Students' Association, had received his Ministerial Order and welcomed him as a voting member of the Board. Mr Petros Kusmu, President, Students' Union had not received his Ministerial Order so he joined the meeting as an observer.

The Chair congratulated President Samarasekera who had recently received an honorary degree from Western University for being internationally recognized as one of Canada's leading metallurgical engineers, and devoting her career to advancing innovation in higher education and the private sector. He also

congratulated her for being awarded an American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers Honorary Membership.

The Chair read the following statement regarding the Tuition freeze and how the Provincial Government's direction will be implemented, asking that the Board Secretary record this statement in the Minutes of the meeting:

“On April 18, 2013, the Provincial Government announced the tuition rate for 2013-2014 would be frozen. I am bringing the Government's direction to the Board who voted to increase tuition at its December 2012 Board meeting. To date, the University of Alberta has not received formal notification regarding the freeze. However, the direction has been set by the Government and now needs to be implemented by the University. The Government has pledged to cover the annual 2.15% tuition increase tied to the annual rate of inflation for the upcoming academic year.”

Presentation on Art & Design, Printmaking

Presenter: Liz Ingram, Distinguished University Professor, Department of Art and Design

Discussion:

The Chair introduced Professor Ingram who, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, provided an overview of her work in printmaking in Art and Design.

Board Strategic Planning Retreat Debriefing and Next Steps

Presenter: Doug Goss, Chair, Board of Governors

Discussion:

The Chair thanked members for their passion for the University, and for the time they invested to get to the results achieved during the Board Strategic Planning Retreat. He remarked on the unanimous decision that the Board of Governors stand united in its commitment to excellence across the institution and firmly endorses the University of Alberta's aspirations to compete with the best public research and teaching intensive universities in the world. The Board charged President Samarasekera to continue to lead the University through a transformative process in fulfillment of the long-term vision and mission of the University. The Retreat provided an opportunity to discuss the strategic direction for the next decade along with the immediate steps university leadership must take to ensure continued excellence in light of the cuts made to the institution's operating budget.

The Chair also reported that, following the Retreat, he has continued to share the message with Government and community leaders, Senators, other Board Chairs and governors, and Alumni. He encouraged members to continue to send the message about the value of an investment in education being of significant benefit to the public good.

2. Report of the President

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

In addition to her written report, the President provided comments on the following matters:

- The University's Budget: the Principles for achieving a sustainable budget have been drafted and will go through the bi-cameral governance process for input and approval. The focus is on preserving the strength of the institution and its vision of excellence while achieving a sustainable budget. All decisions will be made in a timely way, and communication with University stakeholders will be frequent and open. The university will honour its mission and its vision as a comprehensive academic research intensive university with national and international impact, and resource allocation will favour those

academic programs with demonstrable excellence in research and undergraduate, professional and graduate education. Jobs losses will be minimized where possible. The University will remain committed to the priorities identified in *Dare to Deliver* and new resources will be developed in support of its mission. The University will continue to identify efficiencies wherever possible to maximize use of resources.

- Draft Memorandum of Understanding to Government: the Letters of Expectation have been discussed with the Government and it is clear that they will effectively become memoranda of understanding in terms of the roles, responsibilities and mandates for each institution within sectors and the overall system. The institutions have been given the time to redraft the document—at least until the beginning of the new academic year. Presidents have requested a deadline of October 31, 2013. Budget details will be removed from the next draft and circulated for feedback from the community prior to beginning the governance process. The document will be signed by both the President and the Board Chair.
- Meeting with Alberta Post-Secondary Education Presidents: Two productive meetings have taken place, resulting in two important outcomes of these meetings. The Presidents established areas of joint concern, including the need for re-investment; the potential re-opening of the Alberta Post-Secondary Learning Act, the Memoranda of Understanding, transfer and Mobility, and the Campus Alberta Quality Council. The Presidents also agreed on the value of having a collective voice and making joint presentations/recommendations to the Government.
- Update on the Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP): the CIP will make its way through the regular governance channels in anticipation of its submission to the Government. In response to the recent budget, the Budget chapter was rewritten, while the rest of the document remains mostly unchanged.
- Recent University of Alberta awards and achievements, including:
 - Killam Award recipients: Lorne Babiuk (Vice-President of Research) and Vitold Pedrycz (*Vit-OLD Pet-TRICH*) have been named winners of the 2013 Killam Prizes. The Killam Prizes are Canada's leading awards for career achievements in the fields of health sciences, social sciences, engineering, natural sciences and humanities.
 - Canada Gairdner International Award: Michael Houghton, Li Ka Shing Chair of Virology, and our Canada Excellence Research Chair in Virology, was named recipient of the Canada Gairdner International Award, one of the world's most prestigious awards in biomedical science.
 - International Award for Academic Information and Communication Technologies (AICT): AICT was recognized for their excellence in IT service management. They received the project of the year award at the 16th annual IT Service Management Conference and Exhibition.
 - Senior Women Academic Administrators of Canada Recognition Award: Dean of Extension, Katy Campbell, received the Senior Women Academic Administrators of Canada Recognition Award for demonstrating innovative leadership in advancing the mission of, and achieving outstanding contributions to, their institution and/or to higher education.
 - Alberta Order of Excellence: Board Chair, Doug Goss, and distinguished scholar in residence in the Alberta Institute of American Studies, Anne McLellan, both received Alberta's highest honour, the Alberta Order of Excellence.
 - Canada Excellence Research Chairs (CERC) Summit: the University is hosting the 2013 CERC Summit, which will provide a forum for chairholders from across the country to network and present updates on their research. The University has three CERC chairs: Michael Houghton (Virology), Graham Pearson (Arctic Resources) and Thomas Thundat (Oil Sands Molecular Engineering).

The President responded to questions from members regarding the following matters: the timing regarding the Draft Memorandum of Understanding coming before the Board; the deadline for the Comprehensive Institutional Plan; why concerns might exist regarding re-opening the Post-Secondary Learning Act; what were the guiding principles regarding the budget letters recently delivered to the Faculties; and whether the recently announced restructuring of the National Research Council would impact the University.

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of March 15, 2013

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors adopt the Open Session Minutes of its meeting on March 15, 2013.

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

4. Report of the Audit Committee

4.1 Fraud and Irregularity Reporting and Response Procedure

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenters: Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance and Administration); Mary Persson, Associate Vice-President (Audit and Analysis)

Purpose of the Proposal: To bring the President and Vice-Chancellor into the Fraud and Irregularity Reporting and Response Procedure when incidents or complaints are made involving a Vice-President or a direct report to a Vice-President.

Discussion:

The Board Chair advised that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda.

5. Report of the Finance and Property Committee

5.1 GSA Membership, Health and Dental Plan, and Graduate Student Assistance Program Fees

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Brent Epperson, President, Graduate Students' Association

Purpose of the Proposal: To recommend approval of the collection of Graduate Students' Association fees for the 2013-14 academic year

Discussion:

Mr Epperson presented the item noting that the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Council had unanimously agreed to increase its fee. Councillors were aware of the challenging financial situation in which the GSA found itself in a few years ago, and therefore also unanimously approved a five-year business plan to recover and to maintain a robust and stable organization. He reported that the external auditor was pleased with the progress to date. He also noted that neither the GSA or the SU had lobbied for the recently announced tuition freeze.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Finance and Property Committee, approve the collection of the following Graduate Students' Association (GSA) fees for the 2013-14 academic year:

GSA fee for full time students --- \$156.20 per annum
GSA fee for part-time students --- \$117.90 per annum
Health Plan Fee for full-time students --- \$226.01 per annum
Dental Plan Fee for full-time students --- \$170.89 per annum
Graduate Student Assistance Program --- \$12.00 per annum

CARRIED

5.2 University of Alberta Students' Union 2013/2014 Operating/Referendum Fees

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Petros Kusmu, President, Students' Union

Purpose of the Proposal: To recommend approval of the collection of Students' Union fees for the 2013-14 academic year.

Discussion:

Mr Wilson presented the item on behalf of Mr Kusmu. There was no discussion.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Finance and Property Committee, approve the collection of the University of Alberta Students' Union Fee Schedule 1 for 2013/2014, as set forth in Attachment I of the agenda documentation, to take effect September 1, 2013.

CARRIED

6.1 Board Committee Appointments

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenters: Douglas Goss, Chair of the Board of Governors; Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary

Purpose of the Proposal: To consider revisions to the annual appointment roster to Board Committees.

Discussion:

The Board Chair presented the item noting that appointments were subject to Ministerial approval.

He responded to a question from a member regarding the length of terms.

The motion was moved and seconded.

Subject to Ministerial appointment, THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Chair, Mr. Douglas Goss, approve the appointments to Board Committees as set forth in Attachment 1 to the agenda documentation.

CARRIED

INFORMATION REPORTS

7 Report of the Investment Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Mr Bob Kamp, Chair of the Investment Committee, presented the Committee's Report to the Board of Governors. He highlighted the comprehensive implementation plan of revised asset allocation and the asset allocation study.

8 Report of the Audit Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Mr Don Matthew, Chair of the Audit Committee, presented the Committee's Report to the Board of Governors. He reported that one new risk, Student Experience, had been added to the Institutional Risk Summary. He also noted that the BAC had requested metrics from TEC Edmonton due to the potential for competition from Innovate Technology Futures.

9 Report of the Finance and Property Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Mr Dick Wilson, Chair of the Finance and Property Committee, presented the Committee's Report to the Board of Governors.

10 Report of the Human Resources and Compensation Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Mr Robert Teskey, Chair of the Human Resource and Compensation Committee, presented the Committee's Report to the Board of Governors.

11 Report of the University Relations Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Ms Agnes Hoveland, Chair of the University Relations Committee, presented the Committee's Report to the Board of Governors. She noted that the Community Connection Awards would be presented at an event on May 23, 2013 at City Hall and encouraged members to attend.

REGULAR REPORTS

12.1 Report of the Chancellor

Mr Ralph Young, Chancellor, presented the Report of the Chancellor to the Board of Governors. He reported that the Senate was finalizing a letter to the Premier regarding the recent cuts to the University. He highlighted the USchool Convocation, the outcomes of the recent Plenary sessions, and the upcoming Spring Convocation. The Chancellor reported that the Senate will be launching a task force regarding connecting communities in the Fall of this year.

The Chancellor responded to questions from members regarding whether other schools would benefit from participating in USchool and whether the letter to the Premier would be shared with the public.

12.2 Report of the Alumni Association

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Messrs Don Fleming and Jim Hole, Alumni Representatives, presented the Alumni Association Report to the Board of Governors.

12.3 Report of the Students' Union

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Mr Petros Kusmu, President, Students' Union, presented the Students' Union Report to the Board of

Governors. He expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the Board Strategic Planning Retreat, noting the importance of unity and trust among stakeholders. Mr Kusmu commended the President regarding the Alberta Presidents meetings. He thanked Drs Ferguson-Pell and Pozega Osburn for their assistance with the IGNITE Alberta Conference. He also reported that a resolution to the Lister Centre matter had been achieved, acknowledging the importance of the facilitation provided by Dr Ferguson-Pell.

12.4 Report of the Graduate Students' Association

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Mr Brent Epperson, President, Graduate Students' Association, presented the Graduate Students' Association Report to the Board of Governors. He highlighted the GSA's close monitoring of the discussion and issues surrounding the Provincial budget, noting that they are consulting broadly across the institution and meeting with members of the Government and administration. Collaboration among members of the Alberta Graduate Students Council is also underway on this matter. He expressed his satisfaction with the outcomes of the Board Strategic Planning Retreat, adding that a coordinated effort among stakeholders, based on civil interactions with members of the Government, has the potential for finding solutions to the current challenges.

He responded to a question from a member regarding what the Board of Governors could do to assist the GSA in achieving its goals.

12.5 Report of the Association of Academic Staff of the University of Alberta (AASUA)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Mr Wayne Renke, AASUA Representative, presented the AASUA Report to the Board of Governors. He reported anxiety among AASUA members regarding the uncertainties arising from the Provincial budget and directives from the Ministry of Enterprise and Advanced Education. Regarding the Board Strategic Planning Retreat he noted that the goals are clear and affirmed that AASUA is committed to them.

12.6 Report of Non-Academic Staff Association (NASA)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Mr Christopher Pu, NASA Representative, presented the NASA Report to the Board of Governors. He noted that NASA was gratified to see their importance clearly recognized in the Comprehensive Institutional Plan. He reported that the Deputy Premier's comment that it would be up to institutional Board's to decide whether or not to open collective agreements was a cause of concern. He highlighted position disruptions, noting that in 2012-13 there had been 102 position disruptions and 85 in 2011-12.

12.7 Report of the General Faculties Council (GFC)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Dr Miodrag (Mike) Belosevic, GFC Representative, presented the GFC Report to the Board of Governors.

13 Board Chair and Board Member Activity Report

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Mr Douglas Goss, Chair, Board of Governors, presented the Board Chair and Board Member Activity Report. He expressed his concern regarding critical commentary about the remuneration of the Senior

Executive team, noting that in a race to the top the very best leaders are required. He acknowledged the excellence of the facilitation of the Board Retreat, adding that the result is a clear vision for the future that now must be put into action.

14 Other Business

There was no other business.

CLOSING SESSION

15 Reminder of Board Events

Next meeting dates:

- Monday, June 3, 2013 (Audited Financial Statements; 2013 Comprehensive Institutional Plan)
- Friday, June 21, 2013

16 Conclusion of Open Session

The Chair concluded the Open Session at 10:00 a.m.