



Board of Governors  
Open Session Minutes

Friday, December 11, 2015  
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)  
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

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**ATTENDEES:**

Voting Members:

Dick Wilson	Acting Board Chair; Member, General Public
Shenaz Jeraj	Appointed Vice-Chair, General Public
David Cooper	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (AASUA Appointee)
James Heelan	Appointed Member, General Public
Barry James	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Senate
LeRoy Johnson	Appointed Member, General Public
Azhar Khan	Appointed Member, Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative
Navneet Khinda	Appointed Member, Students' Union President
Steven LePoole	Appointed Member, General Public
Colin More	Appointed Member, Graduate Students' Association President
Raymond Muzyka	Appointed Member, General Public
Robert Parks	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Alumni Association
Christopher Pu	Appointed Member, Non-Academic Staff Representative (NASA Appointee)
Jeremy Richards	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (General Faculties Council)
Michael H. Ross	Appointed Member, General Public
Nizar Somji	Appointed Member, General Public
Robert H. Teskey	Appointed Member, General Public
David Turpin	Appointed Member, President
Ralph Young	Appointed Member, Chancellor

Non-Voting Officials Appointed by the President:

Lorne Babiuk	Vice-President (Research)
Phyllis Clark	Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Steven Dew	Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Marion Haggarty-France	University Secretary
Brad Hamdon	General Counsel
Don Hickey	Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
Heather McCaw	Vice-President (Advancement)
Debra Pozega Osburn	Vice-President (University Relations)
Catherine Swindlehurst	Chief of Staff (President's Office)
Juli Zinken	Board Secretary and Manager of Board Services

Regrets:

Jane Halford	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Alumni Association
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Staff:

Erin Plume, Assistant Board Secretary

## **OPENING SESSION**

### 1. Chair's Session

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

#### 1a. Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

The Board Secretary confirmed that the attendance constituted quorum. The Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

#### 1b. Approval of Open Session Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

The Acting Chair reminded members that a revised agenda had been posted earlier in the week.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors approve the revised Open Session agenda, as presented.

**CARRIED**

#### 1c. Conflict of Interest - Opportunity for Declaration

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

The Acting 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 Acting Chair invited members to declare conflicts of interest related to the Open Session Agenda of the meeting. Mr Khan advised members of a conflict with Item 4b, *2016-2017 Residence Rental Rate Proposal*, and Mr Young reminded members that he is a Director of University of Alberta Properties Trust Inc. and therefore had a conflict with Item 5a, *Identification of Possible Land Titles to Transfer to UA Properties Trust Inc.*

Seeing no further declarations, the Acting Chair declared the question asked and answered.

#### 1d. Chair's Remarks

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

The Acting Chair welcomed members and guests. He informed members that this would be Christopher Pu's last meeting as Non-Academic Staff representative, as Mr Pu's term expired on November 27. The Chair noted that although Mr Pu is currently serving his 90-day override period until the Minister appoints his replacement,

the next Board meeting is not until March 18, so Mr Pu has effectively completed his term with the Board of Governors. The Acting Chair led members in thanking Mr Pu for his service and commitment to the Board.

The Acting Chair then welcomed Ms Faiza Billo, the Non-Academic Staff Association's nominee for the Board of Governors. He informed the Board that Ms Billo works as the Personnel and Facilities Administrator in Human Resource Services and is observing the meeting in preparation for her formal Ministerial Appointment.

Finally, the Acting Chair briefed the Board on a recent Standing Committee on Public Accounts meeting he attended, at the request of Derek Fildebrandt, Chair of the Alberta Standing Committee on Public Account, to discuss issues identified in the Auditor General's report of October 2015. He noted that he was joined by Don Hickey, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations), and Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance and Administration), as well as officials from the University of Calgary, Olds College and Alberta Advanced Education, and informed the Board that each institution was invited to present its views on For-profit and Cost Recovery Ventures at Post-secondary Institutions, as well as plans to implement the recommendations provided by the Auditor General. Ms Clark noted that she was awaiting confirmation from the Deputy Minister that there would be no implications to the University's land trust.

## 2. Report of the President

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* David Turpin

In addition to his written report, President Turpin briefed the Board on progress to date on the Institutional Strategic Plan (ISP), including roundtables and stakeholder meetings, Faculty feedback, the November 23<sup>rd</sup> joint Alumni Council Executive-Board of Governors-General Faculties Council-Senate planning retreat, the creation of a cross-institutional ISP working committee, the establishment of 10 working themes, and the timeline for future community feedback and governance discussions.

The President also presented verbal points of interest to the Board on: recent administrative updates including: Provost Steven Dew's recent move into the President's office; Brendan Hokowhitu's resignation as Dean of Native Studies; and Dean of Science Jonathan Schaeffer's six month administrative leave; the University's response to media coverage related to a collared polar bear speculated to be a bear from a University of Alberta research study; a memorandum of understanding between the University and the City of Edmonton regarding construction of a new arena on South Campus; Enterprise Square's current occupancy and potential future tenants; and the recently established President's Award for Refugees and Displaced Persons Fund.

The President responded to a question from a member regarding whether the University was prepared with campus support services for recipients of the President's Award for Refugees and Displaced Persons Fund.

## 3. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

The Acting Chair removed items 3di, *Changes to the Universities Academic Pension Plan (UAPP) Sponsors Representative Committee Terms of Reference*; 3l, *Chancellor's Report*; and 3s, *Board Chair Report, including the Mandates and Roles Document* from the Consent Agenda.

- 3a. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of October 16, 2015
- 3b. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of November 3, 2015 (electronic vote)  
Action Items
- 3c. Report of the Finance and Property Committee

- 3ci. University of Alberta 2016-17 Tuition Fees
- 3d. Report of the Human Resources and Compensation Committee
- 3di. Changes to the Universities Academic Pension Plan (UAPP) Sponsors Representative Committee Terms of Reference – removed from Consent Agenda
- Information Reports
- 3e. Report of the Audit Committee
- 3f. Report of the Finance and Property Committee
- 3g. Report of the Human Resources and Compensation Committee
- 3h. Report of the Investment Committee
- 3i. Report of the Learning and Discovery Committee
- 3j. Report of the Safety, Health and Environment Committee
- 3k. Report of the University Relations Committee
- Regular Reports
- 3l. Chancellor's Report (including Senate 2014-15 Annual Report) – removed from Consent Agenda
- 3m. Alumni Association
- 3n. Students' Union (including 2014-15 financial statements)
- 3o. Graduate Students' Association
- 3p. Association of Academic Staff
- 3q. Non-Academic Staff Association
- 3r. General Faculties Council
- 3s. Board Chair and Board Members Activity Report
  - University of Alberta Board of Governors Mandate and Roles Document – removed from Consent Agenda

The motion was moved and seconded.

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

**CARRIED**

3di. Changes to the Universities Academic Pension Plan (UAPP) Sponsors Representative Committee Terms of Reference

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Phyllis Clark

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To give authority directly to the Sponsors Representative Committee to prepare and approve its own budget, rather than having the Sponsors approve the budget. There are other minor changes to clarify responsibilities.

*Discussion:*

Ms Clark introduced the item, reviewing the original proposal that came forward in 2000 and noting that the proposed changes are primarily housekeeping issues.

Dr David Cooper declared a conflict for this item, as he is an academic staff member of the University and thereby a UAPP member. The Acting Chair acknowledged this declaration.

Ms Clark responded to questions from Board members clarifying the purpose of the item and the governance process involved in approving a new plan.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Human Resources and Compensation Committee, approve the proposed changes to the Universities Academic Pension Plan (UAPP) Sponsors Representative Committee Terms of Reference, as set forth in Attachment 1.

**CARRIED**

3l. Chancellor's Report (including Senate 2014-15 Annual Report)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Ralph Young, Barry James

*Discussion:*

Chancellor Young briefed the Committee on the Senate's 2014-15 Annual Report, noting that it had been a busy year for the Senate. He indicated that discussion of the Senate Task Force Report on Connecting Communities would take place in Closed Session.

Mr James, Senate representative on the Board, informed the Board that the Senate is searching for a new Chancellor and provided details on the nomination process and timeline, noting that the election would take place on May 6. He invited members to an appreciation evening for Chancellor Young on May 5, 2016.

In response to questions from Board members, Mr James clarified that the government does not play a role in the selection of a Chancellor, and confirmed that nominations are not restricted by geographical location.

3s. Board Chair and Board Members Activity Report

- University of Alberta Board of Governors Mandate and Roles Document

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

*Discussion:*

The Acting Board Chair reviewed his report, noting in particular correspondence received from the provincial government regarding Bill 5 and the *Public Sector Compensation Transparency Act* as well as proposed changes to the labour relations model for faculty and graduate students under the *Post-secondary Learning Act*.

The Acting Board Chair, University Secretary and Phyllis Clark responded to questions from the Board regarding how the Board is informed of official correspondence from government to the Board Chair, whether or not the University responded to correspondence regarding the *Public Sector Compensation Transparency Act*, and how these items could be brought forward for discussion at future Board meetings.

In response to a member's request for further information regarding the University of Alberta Board of Governors Mandate and Roles Document and whether or not any changes are required, the University Secretary provided an overview of the mandate and roles document, how it was created, when it was last reviewed by the Board, and the Board member orientation process, noting that changes will be required once the new institutional strategic plan is in place. She noted that at a future point, the Board would be engaged in a process to review and renew the current Mandates and Roles document.

Members engaged in a discussion of when and where the Board should discuss the mandates and roles document, how the document will be affected by the upcoming review of provincial agencies, boards and commissions, why the document was included in this meeting's material, and how the Board can work with government regarding upcoming membership changes.

The Acting Board Chair suggested that Board members submit any further questions or comments regarding the mandates and roles document to himself and the University Secretary and indicated that he would compile any comments and review them with the Board at a later date.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### 4. Report of the Finance and Property Committee

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

#### 4a. University of Alberta International Tuition Fee Proposal

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Phyllis Clark; Steven Dew

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To set international tuition fees for the 2016-17 academic year.

*Discussion:*

Ms Clark introduced the item, informing the Board that the increase is comparable to other Canadian universities and noting that the proposed 1.6 percent increase is based on Alberta Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Ms Clark and Dr Dew responded to a question regarding why fees for all courses are raised by the same amount rather than by individual assessments. Mr More expressed concern that international and domestic fees are being treated differently, and Ms Khinda noted that the increases seemed excessive for certain courses.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Finance and Property Committee, approve the proposal from University Administration to increase international tuition fees by 1.6%, effective September 1, 2016, as illustrated in the table below:

Undergraduate <sup>a</sup>	2015-16 <sup>d</sup>	2016-17 <sup>e</sup>	Change	
			\$	%
Arts and Science	\$20,076.00	\$20,397.22	\$321.22	1.6%
Business	\$26,407.52	\$26,830.04	\$422.52	1.6%
Engineering	\$24,091.20	\$24,476.66	\$385.46	1.6%
Juris Doctor (JD) Program	\$43,544.64	\$44,241.34	\$696.70	1.6%
Pharmacy	\$35,538.42	\$36,107.02	\$568.60	1.6%
Economics Course	\$2,561.42	\$2,602.40	\$40.98	1.6%
Graduate	2015-16 <sup>d</sup>	2016-17 <sup>e</sup>	Change	
			(\$)	(%)
Course Based Masters	\$7,817.04	\$7,942.10	\$125.06	1.6%
Thesis 919 <sup>b</sup>	\$4,877.24	\$4,978.30	\$101.06	1.6%
Thesis Based Masters /PhD <sup>c</sup>	\$6,743.28	\$6,851.16	\$107.88	1.6%
Master's in Business Administration	\$25,509.60	\$25,917.74	\$408.14	1.6%

**Notes:**

- (a) Values are based on a full-time per term and full-time per year unless otherwise stated.
- (b) Tuition applies to thesis students who were admitted to the program of study beginning in Fall

- 2011 or later; this is based on an annual fee assessment (including spring/summer).
- (c) Tuition applies to thesis students who were admitted to the program of study prior to Fall 2011 and are assessed the reduced thesis rate.
  - (d) As approved by the board July 29, 2015.
  - (e) Figures may be rounded downwards at fee index level for administrative purposes, thus lowering the effective year over year percentage increase below 1.6 percent.
  - (f) Values represent total international tuition fees including base tuition, market modifiers, program differentials and international differentials.

**CARRIED**

Ms Khinda opposed; Mr Khan abstained

#### 4b. 2016-2017 Residence Rental Rate Proposal

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Don Hickey

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To present the 2016-2017 residence rental rate increases.

*Discussion:*

Mr Hickey presented the proposal, reviewing the consultation process and reminding members that ancillary services are cost recovery. He reviewed the consultation process, indicating that the University is working to improve student satisfaction, and informed members of the reasons for differential increases.

Mr Hickey also noted that Administration is working with students to lobby government against property taxes for residences, including recognition of non-residence student support spaces within student residences.

Mr Hickey responded to questions from members regarding: current occupancy numbers, potential for more summer usage through collaboration with tourism sectors, the University's communication strategy regarding these new fees, how these increases were calculated, how the University's residences and rates compare with peer institutions, the affordability of residences, residence application numbers compared to available beds; whether or not students are being charged twice for wireless service, where increased costs for furnished suites are being applied, and how these changes are discussed at the Residence Budget Advisory Committee (RBAC).

Ms Khinda requested a stop to residence rate increases and an improved diversity of residences.

In response to a question from the Board regarding whether or not student consumption of University wireless systems for personal use while in residence is within University wireless restrictions, Phyllis Clark provided an overview of the University's information technology policy on private versus university access. She reviewed the restrictions on personal use and noted that the policy framework in place allows reasonable guidelines for students' personal use.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Finance and Property Committee, approve the 2016-2017 Residence Rental Rate Proposal as set forth in Attachment 1, effective May 1, 2016.

**CARRIED**

Mr Khan abstained

### **INFORMATION REPORTS**

#### 5. Report of the Finance and Property Committee

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

5a. Identification of Possible Land Titles to Transfer to UA Properties Trust Inc.

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Don Hickey

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To identify through an omnibus motion the proposed lands available to be transferred to UA Properties Trust Inc. (UAPTI), as Trustee for the Trust, for future development. This provides an efficient and timely approach for the transfer of the University of Alberta lands to UAPTI.

*Discussion:*

The Acting Chair introduced the item, informing the Board that this motion had been approved by the Board Finance and Property Committee (BFPC) with delegated authority of the Board but that the Committee felt the Board should have an opportunity to review and discuss the proposal.

Mr Hickey reviewed the background of UA Properties Trust Inc. (UAPTI) and the omnibus motion approved by BFPC, identifying lands to be transferred to UAPTI for future development, pending government approval. He noted that the UAPTI Trust Deed states that the trust will align with the University's Long-Range Development Plan and will also follow municipal planning guidelines. Mr Hickey also informed the Board that once the order in council is received, any individual land transfer would require BFPC approval, as delegated by the Board of Governors.

Mr Hickey and President Turpin responded to questions from members regarding the motion's reference to both lease and sale, and any potential risks this motion may create related to the recent Standing Committee on Public Accounts meeting. Mr Barry James, member of the Provincial Audit Committee, provided further explanation regarding the Auditor General's recent report and recommendations.

Members engaged in discussion regarding the approval process for disposition and acquisition of lands, particularly related to transfers to and from the land trust and BFPC's delegated authority on those matters. Following the discussion, members proposed that transfers to and from the land trust should come forward to the Board of Governors for final approval and directed University Governance to come forward with a proposal for discussion by BFPC and Board of Governors.

In the interim, members requested that the Board formally affirm the motion approved by BFPC at its November meeting.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors accept and affirm the motion approved by the Board Finance and Property Committee on November 24, 2015:

*THAT the Board Finance and Property Committee, acting with delegated authority of the Board of Governors, and subject to the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, under section 67 of the Post-secondary Learning Act:*

a) *authorize and approve the sale and/or lease to University of Alberta Properties Trust Inc. of all or portions of:*

1. *Plan 4971AJ, Block A (114.55 acres) – South Campus, West 240*
2. *Plan 4971AJ, Block B (30.80 acres) – South Campus, West 240*
3. *Plan 4971AJ, Block C (4.75 acres) – South Campus, West 240*
4. *Plan 3347EO, Parcel A (81.2 acres) – South Campus, West 240*
5. *Plan 9624107, Lot 3 (7.63 acres) – Michener Park*
6. *Plan 9624107, Lot 1 (up to 24.34 acres) – Michener Park*
7. *Plan I23A, Block 159, Lots 18 to 22 (.56 acres) – North Campus, Lot 84*



8. *Plan 9222506, Block B, Lot 2A (15.47 acres) – North Campus, Corbett Hall*

*and*

*b) authorize the President and Vice-President (Facilities and Operations) to negotiate and enter into sale agreements, or lease agreements of up to 99 years, along with any other necessary supporting agreements, with the University of Alberta Properties Trust Inc., subject to the terms and conditions returning to the Committee for approval and to the Board of Governors for final review.*

**CARRIED**

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors direct University Governance to work with Administration to review the land acquisition and disposition approval process and bring forward any recommendations to a future Board of Governors' meeting.

**CARRIED**

### **CLOSING SESSION**

6. *Adjournment*

*Presenter(s): Dick Wilson*

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