Western

President & Vice-Chancellor

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

To: Board of Governors

From: Amit Chakma

Date: April 18, 2012

Re: President's Report to the Board

I'm pleased to provide the following update on important developments and achievements since the last meeting of the Board on January 26, 2012.

1. Provincial and Federal budgets: Universities had braced for the potential of significant cuts following the February 15 release of the Drummond Report on provincial deficit reduction, but Ontario Finance Minister Dwight Duncan delivered a budget on March 27 that largely protected funding to the PSE sector. If the budget gains the support of the Ontario Legislature, the government plans to increase overall funding to colleges and universities by 1.9 percent in order to maintain its commitment to accessibility, and has also committed to maintaining the existing tuition framework for another year. However, this increase in the overall PSE budget will not be sufficient to cover the cost of enrolment expansion. As such, per student funding will continue to decline. In addition, there are other budgetary measures that will have a negative impact on our operating revenues this year and in future years. We continue to examine the impact these measures will have, including cuts to capital funding, medical school training, and study-abroad scholarship.

In the Federal government's *Economic Action Plan 2012*, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty demonstrated support for university research and international education through several important funding commitments in a budget otherwise characterized by reductions to the public service and changes to old age security. The budget included commitments of $500M over five years to the Canada Foundation for Innovation; $37M annually to the Tri-Council research granting agencies (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC); $60M for Genome Canada; $17M to support development of alternatives to existing isotope production; $40M over two years to support CANARIE's operation of a high-speed research network; $14M over two years to double the Industrial Research & Development Internship program; and, $12M annually to the business-led Networks of Centres of Excellence program. Despite the fiscal challenges facing both the Provincial and Federal governments, the commitments made in their respective budgets will help Ontario's PSE sector continue to compete in attracting and supporting top students and faculty from across the country and around the world.

2. Leadership recruitment: On February 17, Dr. Michael Milde was appointed the new Dean of Western's Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Dr. Milde, who has been serving in the Acting Dean's role since January of 2011, will commence his five-year appointment on July 1, 2012. Meanwhile, the searches for a new Vice-President (Research) and Western's first-ever Vice-Provost (International) continue, with the aim of appointments being made for these roles in the summer. Later this spring, Decanal Selection Committees will be struck for the Faculty of Social Science and the Richard Ivey School of Business. Earlier this month, Carol Stephenson announced her plans to retire from Western at the conclusion of her second term as Dean of the Ivey Business School on July 1, 2013, but she has agreed to stay on for a short-term extension of her appointment until September 30, 2013.

Western University | Stevenson Hall, Suite 2107 | London, ON, Canada N6A 5B8
t. 519.661.2111 ext. 83745 f. 519.661.3139 www.westernu.ca

3. Internationalization: In early February, at Prime Minister Stephen Harper's invitation, I attended the PMO's delegation to China, where I was afforded the opportunity to meet with several government, industry and education officials to learn about education opportunities in their country. My focus was not only on the recruitment of students from China to Canada, but also to explore study-abroad opportunities for our domestic students, along with other exchange and research partnership opportunities for Canadian scholars and researchers. Later in February, following consultations with Canadian stakeholders, I returned to Asia with the federal Advisory Panel on International Education that I am chairing to meet with local embassies and see what kind of work is being done on behalf of the PSE sector. The Panel is now writing its final report, which is due in June, and will outline recommendations for shaping the future of Canada's international education strategy.

In early March, I participated in a delegation to Germany with the "U15," constituted by presidents of Canada's major research-intensive universities. During the trip, we met with government, industry and education officials, including presidents of several leading German research universities. I also met with senior executives of Siemens and the Fraunhofer Institute, with which we have partnered to build the new International Composites Research Centre at London's Advanced Manufacturing Park.

In late March, we hosted the Ambassadors to Canada for Macedonia (Mr. Ljuben Tevdovski) and France (Mr. Phillipe Zeller). The Macedonian ambassador's visit was organized by the Depts. of History and Political Science in partnership with the Undergraduate Program in International Relations, and featured a lecture by Mr. Tevdovski titled *"The Dilemma of NATO Enlargement: What Can Canada Do to Strengthen NATO?"* Meanwhile the French ambassador's visit, organized by Western International, included tours of the Brain and Mind Institute and the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory, as well as a lecture by Mr. Zeller on France's diverse contributions to science during the past 200 years.

Later this month, our Provost and Acting Vice-President (Research) Janice Deakin will be in China with London Mayor Joe Fontana and other senior University and City officials to explore education, research and economic development opportunities. The delegation's tour will include a stop in Chengdu (Sichuan Province), where the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry has organized a workshop on rural health for local physicians in partnership with West China Hospital. Another stop will be in London's sister city of Nanjing (Jiangsu Province), where WORLDiscoveries will officially open its first overseas operation—making Western the first Canadian university to open a technology transfer office in China. The trip will conclude in Hong Kong where meetings will be held to explore education and research partnership opportunities with the prestigious Hong Kong University, as well as meetings with the highly engaged Hong Kong branch of Alumni Western.

4. IBM cloud computing Partnership: At the writing of this report, the provincial and federal governments have just announced funding support for the creation of a $210M high-performance computing initiative in partnership with IBM that will involve a consortium of seven universities led by Western and the University of Toronto. The *IBM Canada Research and Development Centre* is expected to create 145 new highly skilled jobs in Ontario while providing university and industry researchers with high-performance "cloud" computing infrastructure that will better manage and analyze the massive data sets used in finding solutions to global problems—such as water and energy conservation, and rising health care costs. IBM will invest up to $175M in the project, while $20M will be contributed by the Federal government, and another $15M by the Province of Ontario.

5. Another record donation to United Way: Shortly after I wrote my January 2012 report to the Board, our campus community announced that faculty, staff, retirees, and students had collectively donated a record-breaking total of $716,632 for social service agencies in London and Middlesex County. Western's contribution assisted the United Way in surpassing its citywide campaign goal of $8.5M, and I wish to acknowledge the generosity and hard work of the individual donors and volunteers who led the way. Western remains the largest organizational donor to the annual campaign.

ACTIVITIES OF THE PRESIDENT
(January 22, 2012 – April 13, 2012)

January	22	London	Deb Matthews' New Years Community Drop In
	23	London	Teleconference with Newfoundland and Labrador Representative (International Education Strategy Advisory Panel)
			LEDC Board Strategy Session
			United Way Campaign Achievement Announcement
			Teleconference with U15
	24	Toronto	CMEC (Council of Ministers of Education), International Education Strategy Advisory Panel
			Chancellor John Thompson
			Phone Call with Minister Fast (International Trade and Asia Pacific Gateway)
	25	London	St. Andrews Lunch (Gibbons)
			Paul Jenkins
	26	London	Board of Governors
			Student2Business Networking Conference
	27	London	Marianne Larsen Gift Announcement Luncheon
	28	London	Family Day Hockey Event
	29	Toronto	1878 Event and Reception
	30	London	Vice President Research Selection Committee
		Ottawa	AUCC Dinner & Briefing Session
	31	Ottawa	AUCC Advocacy Day on the Hill
			Neil Yates (Citizenship & Immigration)
February	1	London	Phone Call Asian University for Women Vice-Chancellor Search Committee
			Phone Call with Minister Glen Murray
	3	London	"Back to Campus" Event
	5-12	China	Prime Minister's Delegation
	13	London	Phone Call with Roslyn Penfound (DM Dept of Education Nova Scotia)
			Interview with Embassy Magazine
	14	London	LEDC
	15	London	UWOFA Executive
			Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP Reception
	16	London	Western Awards of Excellence
			Phone Call with Deputy Minister Newman
			Coxford Lecture Series in Public Law & Dinner
	17	London	MP Chris Bentley
			Teleconference AUW Vice-Chancellor Search Committee
			Senate
	21	London	Teleconference International Education Strategy

			Advisory Panel
February	22	Toronto	Minister Glen Murray
			Geoff Beattie (Campaign Chair)
	23	London	Dr. Forest (President, Trudeau Foundation)
	24	London	FedDev Announcement
	25-29	China/India	International Education Strategy Advisory Panel
March	1-3	China/India	International Education Strategy Advisory Panel
	5	Toronto	David Naylor (President, U of T)
			Geoff Beattie (Photoshoot)
			Laura Gainey (Regional President, RBC Royal Bank)
	8	Berlin, Germany	U15 Conference
			Dr. Natascha Eckert (Siemens AG)
	9	Berlin	Dr. Raoul Klingner, Mr. Thomas Dickert (Fraunhofer)
	15	Bonita Springs	Larry and Patricia Innanen
			President's Alumni Luncheon
	19	London	Vice-President Research Selection Committee
			Dr. Stephen McClatchie (Principal, Huron)
		Windsor	Dinner with Dr. Alan Wildeman (President, University of Windsor)
	20	London	UWOFA Executive
			Interview with Gerald Seijts
			Phone Call with Deb Matthews
	21	London	Lunch with Andrew Forgione (USC President)
			WUSC Executive Committee Conference Call
			U15 Conference Call
			Ambassador Ljuben Tevdovski (Macedonia)
			Alternative Spring Break Showcase 10th Anniversary Event
	22	Toronto	Joe Rotman
			Research Ontario Project Meeting
			OCE Board of Directors Meeting
	23	London	Senate
	26	London	Dr. Jack Bend
			Grad Student Zheng Zhang
			Phone Call with Roseann Runte (President, Carleton University)
			Student Residence Reception
			Ambassador Philipe Zeller (French Ambassador to Canada) (Gibbons)
	27	Toronto	International Education Strategy Advisory Panel
			Dinner with Cal Stiller, Bill and Anne Fleming (Gibbons)
	28	London	Phone Call with Paul Davidson (AUCC)
			Engineering, Schulich, Science Research Day
			Charmaine Dean (Science Dean), Kim Baines

	29	Ottawa	Deputy Minister Louis Levesque (DFAIT)
			Dan Guhr (DFAIT)
			Louise Girouard (Director, Policy & Stakeholder Relations, DFAIT)
			Chad Gaffield (President, SSHRC)
			Speaker Noel Kinsella (Speaker of the Senate)
			Federal Budget Announcement
	30	London	PVP Retreat
			STIC (Science Technology & Innovation Council) Conference Call
	31	Ottawa	WUSC Board of Directors
April	2	London	Phone Call with Suzanne Fortier (President, NSERC)
			USC Awards Ceremony
	3	London	Brescia New Residence Groundbreaking Ceremony
			Tom Collins (Student, Chair of WUSC)
			Annual Athletic Awards Banquet
	4	London	Vice President Research Search Committee
			Ivey MBA and EMBA Convocation Ceremony
			MPP Tim Hudak
			Ivey Honorary Degree Dinner (Gibbons)
	10	Toronto	FedDev IBM Announcement
			Minister Gary Goodyear
			Fundraising and Donor Relations Committee
	11	Toronto	Silvio & Ada De Gasperis (Founder and Executive Directors, Burgundy Brick Foundation)
			Kelly Meighen
			Mr. Tony Gagliano (President & CEO, St. Joseph Communications)
	12	London	Chris Bentley “London Energy Forum”
			Faculty Author Reception
	13	London	Senate
			Wall of Champions Dinner