



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**JUNE 25, 2020**

The meeting was held at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom videoconference.

PRESENT: R. Konrad, Chair  
A. Bryson, Acting Secretary

S. Bennett	C. Rorabeck
W. Boye	B. Ross
C. Burghardt-Jesson	A. Shepard
G. Dick	S. Shortreed
K. Gibbons	D. Simmonds
E. Holder	C. Stephenson
C. Karakatsanis	K. Sullivan
D. Keddy	P. Thomlinson
M. Lerner	J. Toswell
K. Mequanint	S. Trosow
G. Parraga	H. Usher

By Invitation: A. Blackburn-Evans, M. Bélanger, R. Chelladurai, K. Cole, P. Eluchok, A. Hrymak, L. Logan, E. Mallory, J. Massey, J. O'Brien, T. Rice, M. Ruddock, J. Patten, S. Prichard

Secretariat Resource: L.A. McKivior, M. O'Connor, L. Rigg

Regrets: K. Richter

**Land Acknowledgement**

D. Keddy read a Land Acknowledgement.

BG.20-50

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

The Report of the President, distributed with the agenda, consisted of the following topics: anti-racism working group update, *THE Impact Rankings*, *QS World University Rankings*, partnership with Bell on 5G research initiative, Labatt family \$5M donation for health equity research and professorship, Student Relief Fund impact, presentation to the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Finance on the impact of COVID-19 to the university sector, accolades for campus community members who were recognized with special honours, and leadership updates.

A. Shepard, President & Vice-Chancellor, offered his congratulations to the Class of 2020 whose degrees were conferred on June 19. He applauded the work that the Communications team and individual faculties did to help graduates celebrate virtually. He said that Western is committed to inviting the Class of 2020 to a future Convocation to provide an opportunity for those graduates to celebrate in-person once it is safe to do so.

A. Shepard reported that more than 800 students, faculty, staff and alumni attended the virtual Anti-Racism Working Group Town Hall on June 24. He encouraged Board members to watch the recording of the town hall posted on the Office of the President website.

Regarding the pandemic pivot, A. Shepard said that the University has set the stage for the fall semester. He reported that enrollment for the 2020-21 academic year is strong. He noted that the University will host eight single day visits for new students and their families in July and August, broken into small groups of around 20. These visits, which are subject to the approval of public health authorities, will help build the relationship between new students and existing students, the programs to which they have enrolled, and the campus and community.

A. Shepard also noted that the University has hired instructional designers to help pivot courses in this emergency online teaching mode.

A. Shepard announced that Western has joined more than a dozen research-intensive Canadian universities to battle climate change through sustainable investing by becoming a signatory to *Investing to Address Climate Change: A Charter for Canadian Universities*. As a signatory, Western agrees to set an institutional framework for strategies that measure, evaluate and shift investments to reflect environmental impact.

A. Shepard was pleased to report that Western will partner with Bell Canada on a 5G research initiative. He said that Bell Canada will invest \$2.7M and deploy 5G network equipment and infrastructure throughout Western's campus as part of a research partnership designed to create smarter cities and communications systems, better manage business continuity, and more. He said that the partnership will also create an advanced 5G research centre at Western involving faculty from multiple disciplines.

A Board member commented that publicity on the partnership with Bell Canada stating that the partnership will turn the campus into a 'living lab' has raised concerns regarding privacy with some members of the campus community. A. Hrymak, Provost & Vice-President (Academic) clarified that individuals will be able to choose whether or not to be part of the 5G network. He further noted that all research studies will go through ethics and that participants will be required to provide consent. A Board member suggested that in addition to research ethics approval, consideration should be given to developing protocols for each project, or a set of best practices, to ensure that the University is not in violation of any privacy laws. A. Shepard noted that this was an important issue and requested that further discussion on this topic be continued offline.

BG.20-51 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA** [Appendix I]

It was moved by R. Konrad, seconded by D. Keddy,

That the items listed in Appendix I, Unanimous Consent Agenda, except item 12 (Director's Report: McIntosh Gallery Pandemic Action Plan), be approved or received for information.

CARRIED

BG.20-52 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Given the resignation of the former University Secretary, the Chair noted that the minutes of the meeting held April 23, 2020 would be signed by the Associate University Secretary present at that meeting.

The open session minutes of the meeting of April 23, 2020 were approved as circulated.

BG.20-53 **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There were no items noted as business arising from the April 23, 2020 minutes.

**REPORT OF THE PROPERTY & FINANCE COMMITTEE** [Appendix II]

Prior to considering the Report of the Property & Finance Committee, C. Karakatsanis provided the Board with a high-level overview of the work of the Committee.

BG.20-54 **MAPP 2.26: Statement of Investment Objectives, Policies and Governance – Revisions to Policy**

L. Logan, Vice-President (Operations & Finance) provided an overview of the proposed changes to the Statement of Investment Objectives, Policies and Governance for the Short-Term Portfolio, the Mid-Term Portfolio and the Operating and Endowment Fund. She noted that the main changes related to a new strategic asset allocation, an update to the Responsible Investing strategy, and the introduction of a line of credit.

It was moved by C. Karakatsanis, seconded by K. Gibbons,

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Statement of Investment Objectives, Policies and Governance for the Short-Term Portfolio, the Mid-Term Portfolio and the Operating and Endowment Fund, as shown in Appendix II, Annex 1.

CARRIED

BG. 20-55     **MAPP 2.14: Disclosure of Information on Western Investments – Revisions to Policy**

It was moved by C. Karakatsanis, seconded by C. Rorabeck,

That the Board of Governors approve the revised MAPP 2.14 policy as shown in Appendix II, Annex 2.

CARRIED

BG. 20-56     **2020-21 Program Specific Fees and Other Supplemental Fees**

R. Chelladurai, Associate Vice-Provost (Planning, Budgeting & Information Technology) explained that the UHIP fee rates were not available at the time that the Board approved the budget. He said that the University now has the finalized UHIP fee rates and is requesting Board approval for the proposed fees shown in Appendix II, Annex 5.

It was moved by C. Karakatsanis, seconded by E. Holder,

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Program Specific Fees and Other Supplemental Fees for 2020-21 as shown in Appendix II, Annex 5, Table 1.

CARRIED

R. Chelladurai also informed the Board that the University is in the process of reviewing the applicability of some course-specific or program-specific fees, such as field trip fees and placement/internship fees, as a result of the move to some virtual offerings for the 2020-21 academic year in light of COVID-19. He said that the University anticipates that some fees may be cancelled and/or realigned between courses.

BG.20-57     **Information Items reported by the Property & Finance Committee**

Appendix II, Report of the Property & Finance Committee, contained the following items that were received for information by unanimous consent:

- Scholarships, Awards, and Prizes
- Radiation-Induced Chemistry Research Chair
- Antonios Mamandras Chair in Graduate Orthodontics
- 2019-20 Operating Budget as at April 30, 2020
- Semi-Annual Ratio Report on Non-Endowed Funds
- Ancillary Financial Report

**REPORT OF THE SENIOR POLICY AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** [Appendix III]

Prior to considering the Report of the Senior Policy and Operations Committee, R. Konrad provided the Board with a high-level overview of the work of the Committee.

BG.20-58 **Annual Report on Gender-based and Sexual Violence**

J. Massey, Associate Vice-President (Student Experience) presented the Annual Report on Gender-based and Sexual Violence provided in Appendix III, Annex 2. She outlined prevention programs underway at Western and summarized the responsive care provided to survivors of gender-based and sexual violence. She noted that the number of disclosures and referrals have continued to increase since the implementation of the new sexual violence policy on May 1, 2020. She said that this increase is likely a reflection of the growing awareness of the supports and resources available.

J. Massey reported that there has been a slight decrease in the number of formal complaints and resolutions over the last year. She said that more students would prefer to seek an informal resolution, and that the new policy provides more opportunities for students to do so. Finally, she outlined next steps planned to increase prevention and response to gender-based and sexual violence at Western including e-modules to support prevention work, hiring a gender-based violence investigator to support investigations and manage the informal resolution process, and releasing the gender-based violence prevention framework.

A Board member asked if any changes were observed in the gender-based and sexual violence environment during the COVID-19 pandemic. J. Massey said that intimate partner violence has increased overall during the pandemic. She acknowledged that many students are not living in London due to quarantine measures and said that the University is taking steps to support those students experiencing intimate partner violence by ensuring that they have access to community-based resources.

BG.20-59 **Information Items reported by the Senior Policy and Operations Committee**

Appendix III, Report of the Senior Policy and Operations Committee, contained the following items that were received for information by unanimous consent:

- Committee Appointments:
  - University Discipline Appeals Committee (UDAC)
  - McIntosh Gallery Committee
  - Western Fair Association Appointees
- Annual Report of the Code of Student Conduct

**REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE** [Appendix IV]

Prior to considering the Report of the Governance & By-Laws Committee, S. Shortreed provided the Board with a high-level overview of the work of the Committee.

BG.20-60 **Revisions to the Terms of Reference of the McIntosh Gallery Committee (Special Resolution 1-H)**

It was moved by R. Konrad, seconded by D. Keddy,

That the Board of Governors approve the revisions to the Terms of Reference of the McIntosh Gallery Committee as shown in Appendix IV, Annex 1.

CARRIED (by Unanimous Consent)

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE** [Appendix V]

Prior to considering the Report of the Audit Committee, S. Bennett provided the Board with a high-level overview of the work of the Committee.

BG.20-61 **Information Items reported by the Audit Committee**

Appendix V, Report of the Audit Committee, contained the following item that was received for information by unanimous consent:

- Campus Community Police Service – 2020 Annual Report

**REPORT OF THE MCINTOSH GALLERY COMMITTEE** [Appendix VI]

BG.20-62 **Revisions to MAPP XX: McIntosh Gallery Collections Policy**

It was moved by R. Konrad, seconded by H. Usher,

That the Board of Governors approve the revisions to MAPP 1.XX: McIntosh Gallery Collections Policy, as shown in Appendix VI, Annex 1.

J. Patten, Director/Chief Curator of McIntosh Gallery said the main goals of the policy revision were to acknowledge the need to collect more pieces from BIPOC artists (i.e., black, Indigenous and people of colour) and to deaccession some of the collections that are no longer relevant.

A Board member suggested that an alternative to the term ‘disposal’ be considered. J. Patten clarified that the term ‘disposal’ is the standard term used in museums around the world. It encompasses all of forms of removing pieces from a collection.

A Board member noted that definitions of ‘Registrar’ and ‘Collection’ had not been included in the policy. J. Patten indicated that he would provide the definitions to the University Secretariat.

The question was called and CARRIED (one abstention)

BG.20-63 **Director’s Report: McIntosh Gallery Pandemic Action Plan**

The Director’s Report on the McIntosh Gallery Pandemic Action Plan was provided in Appendix VI, Annex 4.

A Board member expressed concern that some of the guidelines set out in the McIntosh Gallery Pandemic Action Plan may not be in keeping with the University’s overall strategy. J. Patten responded that the guidelines had been set under the pressure of the pandemic and in the absence of other information from the University at that time. He indicated that the McIntosh Gallery would happily adopt the protocols set by the University.

**ITEMS REFERRED BY SENATE** [Appendix VII]

BG.20-64 **Proposal to Establish the Western Institute for Neuroscience (Research)**

S. Prichard, Acting Vice-President (Research) provided an overview of the proposal. She said that the Western Institute for Neuroscience (Research) will provide a framework that coordinates and unifies neuroscience expertise at Western, Lawson Health Research Institute, London Health Sciences Centre and other campus and community collaborators by creating an entity that provides academic leadership related to a shared vision, program alignment and advocacy.

It was moved by D. Keddy, seconded by S. Bennett,

That Board of Governors approve the establishment of the Western Institute for Neuroscience (Research), effective July 1, 2020.

CARRIED

BG.20-65 **Faculty of Arts and Humanities and Faculty of Social Science – Proposed Name Change: The Department of Women’s Studies and Feminist Research to the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies**

It was moved by R. Konrad, seconded by D. Keddy,

That the Board of Governors approve that the Department of Women’s Studies and Feminist Research within the Faculty of Arts and Humanities and the Faculty of Social Science be renamed as the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies, effective July 1, 2020.

CARRIED (by Unanimous Consent)

BG.20-66 **Faculty of Social Science – Proposed Name Change: The Department of Geography to the Department of Geography and Environment**

It was moved by R. Konrad, seconded by D. Keddy,

That the Board of Governors approve that the Department of Geography within the Faculty of Social Science be renamed as the Department of Geography and Environment, effective July 1, 2020.

CARRIED (by Unanimous Consent)

BG.20-67 **Information Items Referred by Senate**

Appendix VII, Items Referred by Senate, contained the following items that were received for information by unanimous consent:

- Annual Report of the Working Group on Information Security (WGIS) – 2019
- Reports on Promotion, Tenure and Continuing Appointment
- Report of the Academic Colleague
- Academic Administrative Appointments

BG.20-68 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

No questions were raised.

BG.20-69 **OTHER BUSINESS**

On behalf of the Board, R. Konrad thanked K. Richter and K. Mequanint, whose terms end June 30, 2020, for their time and service to the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned to the confidential session at 2:10 p.m.

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R. Konrad  
Chair

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A. Bryson  
Acting Secretary