



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

NOVEMBER 18, 2021 – OPEN SESSION

The meeting was held at 10:00 a.m. in the Western Interdisciplinary Research Building, Room 3000 and on Zoom.

PRESENT:

R. Konrad, Chair
A. Bryson, Secretary

M. Banik	C. Rorabeck
S. Bennett	B. Ross
W. Boye	A. Shepard
A. Chant	S. Shortreed
G. Dick	D. Simmonds
K. Gibbons	C. Stephenson
M. Lerner	M. Surkont
A. Pahargarh	J. Toswell
G. Parraga	S. Trosow
S. Pitel	H. Usher

By Invitation:

A. Blackburn-Evans, R. Chelladurai,
L. Logan, E. Mallory, J. O'Brien, J. O'Hagan, S.
Prichard, L. Rigg [Lesley]

Secretariat Resource: S. Fretwell, C. Price, L. Rigg [Lisa]

Regrets:

C. Burghardt-Jesson, L. Hasenfratz, E. Holder, J. Kum,
S. Neiman, G. Pollock

Welcome and Chair's Remarks

R. Konrad greeted Board members and welcomed them to the last Board meeting of the year. He acknowledged international week at Western and encouraged Board members to view the video found on Western International's website featuring Dr. Opiyo Oloya (<https://www.internationalweek.uwo.ca/>) He noted that the video acknowledges the relationship between the land and its people. He stated that with that connection to the land comes a responsibility to care for the land. He recognized the diversity on which Canada is built and the enrichment of Canadian culture as a result of its diverse population.

Land Acknowledgement

H. Usher offered a Land Acknowledgement.

BG.21-185 **Adoption of Agenda – Open Session**

It was moved by K. Gibbons, seconded by A. Chant,

That the agenda for the Open Session be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

BG.21-186 **Approval of the Open Session Minutes of the Meeting of September 21, 2021**

It was moved by G. Dick, seconded by G. Parraga,

That the open session minutes of the meeting of September 21, 2021 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

BG.21-187 **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There were no items noted as business arising from the September 21, 2021 minutes.

BG.21-188 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

In addition to the written report of the President that was distributed with the agenda, the President commented on the following:

- The President thanked the Western community for their response to the COVID-19 pandemic, citing the high vaccination rate on campus as an achievement that has supported the health of both the campus and the broader London community
- The University is focusing on communicating its stories and achievements more broadly outside of campus including
 - Highlighting the achievements of Sir Frederick Banting at Western along with a recent campaign on the importance of insulin in partnership with LHSC and SJHC in London
 - The new Schulich MD program offering a modular program design
 - The updates made to TD Stadium that support both Western and

- the London community
- The research leading to devices to address leaky heart valves that was recently published in the local paper
- The University has published a number of articles recently citing Western's achievements in sustainability (<https://news.westernu.ca/2021/11/responsible-investing-contributes-to-significant-carbon-footprint-reduction/>)
- The strategic plan roll out is proceeding well with the President engaging with business units and Faculties across the University
- The University has announced the first round of funding for the \$20M that was listed in the last budget and has received more than 30 applications to date
- An action committee led by both Faculty and Staff is meeting regularly to review the incidents that occurred in September regarding gender-based sexual violence. The University will also be undertaking an independent review in conjunction with the work of the action committee
- The President met with other U15 Presidents recently to discuss federal grant competitions

The President concluded his report by highlighting the increase in funding to university research, noting a 13% increase in overall funding compared to previous years.

During the discussion the following was noted:

- It was encouraged that the University post a link publicly that outlines who has been appointed to the task force on gender-based sexual violence
- The University is honoring signed medical exemptions to vaccination for individuals attending campus along with human rights based exemptions on a case by case basis reviewed by the University's Occupational Health unit
- Medical exceptions are only given to people who have had a severe allergic reaction to the vaccine on a first dose or people who have had peri/myocarditis recently or related to a first dose of a vaccine
- There are a small minority of individuals who are refusing to state their vaccination status and are on various forms of temporary suspension as a result, until they adhere to the policy
- The Affiliated University Colleges know they aren't included in the carbon footprint analysis of investments as they each manage their own investments
- The University will be publishing a report in the first quarter of 2022 regarding sustainability investments
- Regarding the Scarborough Charter, the Affiliates are separate legal entities and will sign independently of main campus. Huron University College has stated that they will sign the Charter, but no information has

been provided from the other Affiliates

- Regarding the research funding of \$10M dollars there was a request to publicly communicate who would be adjudicating the research proposals and a request to offer the opportunity to apply through the Faculty Dean or an alternate route if preferred for the next round of proposals

AGENDA

ITEMS REFERRED BY THE SENIOR POLICY AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

BG.21-189 **Scarborough Charter**

A. Shepard discussed the Scarborough Charter. He reported that more than forty institutions out of ninety-seven have acknowledged their intention to sign the charter which happens formally today at 3 p.m.

During the discussion the following was noted:

- The University has reviewed the Charter at a high level and interprets the document as an aspirational document and not a legal contract
- There are details listed within the document that an individual or organization could potentially pressure the University to adhere to once the document is signed, however the aspirations listed within the document at a macro level are in alignment with goals that the University is already attempting to achieve

ITEMS REFERRED BY THE GOVERNANCE AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

BG.21-190 **Revisions to Special Resolution No. 3**

A. Bryson presented the revisions to Special Resolution No. 3 for approval.

It was moved by H. Usher, seconded by A. Chant,

That the Board approve the revisions to Special Resolution No. 3, Banking, as presented in ITEM 4.3(a).

CARRIED

BG.21-191 **Changing Name of Special Resolutions**

A. Bryson presented the proposed renaming of special resolutions for approval. She noted that the characterization of the items listed as special resolutions did

not require a higher majority vote. She reported that changing the names of the items would clarify and categorize items appropriately.

It was moved by S. Shortreed, seconded by G. Dick,

That the Board of Governors approve that the documents called “Special Resolutions” be renamed as presented in ITEM 4.3(b).

CARRIED

BG.21-192 **Revisions to Board Rules of Procedure at Meetings**

A. Bryson presented the revisions to Board Rules of Procedure at Meetings for approval.

It was moved by M. Banik, seconded by H. Usher,

That the Board of Governors Rules of Procedure at Meetings be revised as presented in ITEM 4.3(c).

CARRIED

BG.21-193 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by K. Gibbons,

That the items listed in the Unanimous Consent Agenda be approved or received for information.

CARRIED

ITEMS FROM THE PROPERTY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

BG.21-194 **New Scholarships, Awards, and Prizes**

The new scholarships, awards, and prizes approved by the Property and Finance Committee, on behalf of the Board of Governors, were provided for information in Item 5.1(a).

BG.21-195 **Semi-Annual Ratio Report on Non-Endowed Funds**

The Semi-Annual Ratio Report on Non-Endowed Funds was provided for information in Item 5.1(b).

BG.21.196 **Annual Report on Underwater Endowments**

The Annual Report on Underwater Endowments was provided for information in Item 5.1(c).

ITEMS FROM THE SENIOR POLICY AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

BG.21-197 **City of London Extension of Term of M. Lerner to June 30, 2022**

The City of London extension of the terms of M. Lerner was reported to the Board for information in Item 5.2(a).

BG.21-198 **McIntosh Gallery Committee Appointments**

Vacancies filled on the McIntosh Gallery Committee by the Senior Policy and Operations Committee were reported for information in Item 5.2(b).

BG.21-199 **Reappointment of Erika Chamberlain as the Dean of Law**

The reappointment of E. Chamberlain as the Dean of law was provided for information in Item 5.2(c).

ITEMS FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

BG.21-200 **Board Election Schedule 2022**

The Board Election Schedule for Spring 2022 was provided for information in Item 5.3(a).

ITEM REFERRED BY SENATE

BG.21-201 **Academic Administrative Appointments (September)**

The academic administrative appointments for October 2021 were provided for information in Item 5.4(a).

BG.21-202 **Report of the COU Academic Colleague**

The report of the COU Academic Colleague for November 2021 was provided for information in Item 5.4(b).

BG.21-203 **Institutional Quality Assurance Report**

The Institutional Quality Assurance Report was provided for information in Item

5.4(c).

BG.21-204 **Research Park Plans**

The Western Research Park key highlights was provided for information in Item 5.4(d).

BG.21-205 **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

No items were removed from Consent.

BG.21-206 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

BG.21-206.1 **Lanyard Policy**

A Board member requested discussion regarding the identification lanyards citing concerns around faculty, staff, and student safety. It was reported that the use of lanyards is not required and will not be adopted as a policy across campus.

A. Shepard stated that the adoption of lanyards was proposed in response to a potential provincial government requirement to show proof of vaccination status on entering a campus building. The University sought a way to identify who was in a classroom, for example, for contact tracing. The requirement did not materialize and as a result the lanyards are not mandatory.

BG.21-207 **OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was noted.

ADJOURNMENT TO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

The meeting adjourned to the confidential session at 11:10 a.m.

R. Konrad
Chair

A. Bryson
University Secretary