



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

**FEBRUARY 3, 2022 – 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	G. Pollock
S. Bennett	C. Rorabeck
W. Boye	B. Ross
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, C. Bressette,  
L. Logan, E. Mallory, J. O'Brien, J. O'Hagan,  
S. Prichard, L. Rigg [Lesley]

Secretariat Resource: S. Fretwell, L.A. McKivor, M. O'Connor, L. Rigg [Lisa]

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

BG.22-01 **Welcome and Chair's Remarks**

R. Konrad greeted Board members and discussed the significance of February being the month to recognize black history citing important events. He concluded his remarks by acknowledging the Chinese New Year, the year of the tiger, and wishing health and happiness to those in attendance.

H. Usher spoke about black history in London, Ontario, highlighting two churches in London and their significance in supporting the black community.

BG.22-02 **Land Acknowledgement**

K. Gibbons offered a Land Acknowledgement.

BG.22-03 **Adoption of Agenda – Open Session**

It was moved by S. Bennett, seconded by W. Boye,

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

CARRIED

BG.22-04 **Approval of the Open Session Minutes of the Meeting of November 18, 2021**

It was moved by H. Usher, seconded by G. Dick,

That the open session minutes of the meeting of November 18, 2021 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

BG.22-05 **Business Arising from the Minutes**

BG.22-05.1 **Election Procedures for Staff Members and Board Agenda Items**

S. Shortreed, Chair of the Governance and By-Laws Committee reported that the Governance and By-Laws committee discussed the election procedures for staff members along with how items proceed through to the Board agenda at the January meeting as previously requested during the September Board meeting. She stated that while the committee did discuss both of these issues, no further changes were made to the documents regarding these items.

BG.22-06 **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

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

- The President thanked the Chair and H. Usher for highlighting black history month and London's historical roots in black history.
- A. Shepard is continuing to recover at home and receiving excellent care.
- J. Doerksen stepped into the role as Provost while the President recovers.
- Students have returned to campus as of this week for in-person learning.
- There have been no issues thus far with the return to campus of upper year students.
- Work on gender-based and sexual violence continues, including the

- education program for students in residence. Training for faculty, staff, and other members of the community will begin shortly.
- In addition to an independent review that is currently underway, the action committee has begun focus sessions across campus along with local community agencies for feedback.
  - The Bayfield Hall residence space will continue to be converted to first-year student space to increase capacity and provide additional beds for incoming students.
  - The budget process is well underway with the operating budget coming forward for approval in April 2022.
  - In Fall 2021 the University received 36 initial proposals for funding from the Strategic Planning Fund. Of these applications, 16 were approved for funding. Round two applications have just been received with 29 applications thus far. It is anticipated that further funds will be provided as needed to fund approved projects.
  - CIHR funding was at 22% for this round of funding for the University which is twice what it was three years ago.

The Acting President concluded her report by acknowledging the passing of a number of prominent figures in the Western community, including two well-known football coaches, a soccer coach, and a former dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

Following the report of the President, the committee engaged in the following discussion:

- Gender violence training is being held online via zoom and in person to accommodate those who have not yet returned to campus residence. The program is compulsory.
- There was a request to have a discussion at a future Board meeting regarding long-term housing strategies on campus.
- The University was encouraged to work with the City to address challenges in long-term housing that may be encountered by current and future students as the University looks to increase enrollment.

## **AGENDA**

### **ITEMS REFERRED BY THE GOVERNANCE AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

#### **BG.22-07 Revisions to Resolution re: Delegation of Authority**

A. Bryson, University Secretary reported that the revisions to the resolution re: delegation of authority came forward at the November meeting but returned to the Governance and By-Laws Committee in January to discuss further revisions. She noted that additional changes focused on cleaning up the language to recognize collective agreements and to increase the funding approval authority allowance of the President for real property acquisitions in recognition of current market conditions.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- There was concern about the language used to state imposing academic sanctions for non-academic offences. It was encouraged to amend it to state “appropriate sanctions” as opposed to academic sanctions.
- It was acknowledged that the resolution lists academic and other sanctions and that this language would provide the flexibility required to impose non-academic sanctions for non-academic offences.
- It was proposed that the language align with that of the Student Code of Conduct in regards to academic offences.
- The goal of the committee was not to change the resolution but to focus on cleaning up the language. Changing the clauses within the resolution would warrant further committee discussion.
- The individuals identified in the Act were listed within the resolution. Those that are not listed within the resolution are listed within the collective agreements that are identified within the resolution.
- A Board member raised a question as to whether additional positions within the University should be included in the exemption list for further discussion at a future review including the Deans, Associate Vice-Provosts, and Registrar. It was determined that the motion would be approved as is and the resolution would return to the Governance and By-Laws Committee for further discussion.

It was moved by R. Konrad, seconded by G. Dick,

That the Board approve the revisions to Resolution re: Delegation of Authority to President as presented in Item 4.3(a) and the rescission of Resolution re: Salary Discussions (formerly Special Resolution No. 8).

CARRIED

### **ITEMS REFERRED BY SENATE**

#### **BG.22-08 Western Research Strategic Plan 2022-27**

L. Rigg [Lesley] provided an overview of the Western Research Strategic Plan and how it aligns with the University’s strategic plan and the changes that are occurring within Western Research Parks. It was noted that the plan is an internally focused plan. It was encouraged that the “about us” page be more prominent at the beginning of the document and that the plan have an undefined end date to allow flexibility and fluidity in the plan. It was encouraged that the plan articulate fostering relationships clearly within the document.

It was moved by S. Shortreed, seconded by B. Ross,

That the Board of Governors approve the Western Research Strategic Plan 2022-27 as provided.

CARRIED

BG.22-09 **Revised Appointment Procedures for Senior Academic and Administrative Officers of the University – Vice-Provost (Students)**

J. Doerksen, Acting Provost presented the revised appointment procedures for Senior Academic and Administrative Officers of the University. He noted the revisions included the Registrar reporting to the new Vice-Provost (Students), the addition of chairing a strategic council on student success, and the change in title from Associate Vice-President (Students) to Vice-Provost (Students).

During the discussion the following points were made:

- It was encouraged that the selection committee terms of reference be reviewed to ensure community representation from groups that are going to be within the portfolio of this position.
- A Board member raised concerns about clause D, noting that no other committee allows the Chair to choose three members of the committee without restriction. Through discussion, it was agreed that two members be elected by Senate and one member be selected by the Chair.

It was moved by A. Chant, seconded by S. Trosow,

That the Board of Governors approve the *Appointment Procedures for Senior Academic and Administrative Officers of the University* be amended to retitle the Associate Vice-President (Student Experience) as the Vice-Provost (Students) as shown in Item 4.4(b).

CARRIED

BG.22-10 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by M. Lerner, seconded by C. Rorabeck,

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

CARRIED

**ITEMS FROM THE PROPERTY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

BG.22-11 **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.22-12 **Key Financial Indicators Report**

The Key Financial Indicators Report was provided for information in Item 5.1(b).

BG.22-13 **Ancillary Financial Report**

The Ancillary Financial Report was provided for information in Item 5.1(c).

BG.22-14 **Update on Operating Budget as of December 31, 2021**

The update on the operating budget as of December 31, 2021 was provided for information in Item 5.1(d).

BG.22-15 **Ihnatowycz Family Foundation Chair in Leadership**

The approval of the Ihnatowycz Family Foundation Chair in Leadership by the Property and Finance Committee was provided for information in Item 5.1(e).

BG.22-16 **Annual Report on Trademark Licensees doing Business with the Western bookstore**

The Annual Report on Trademark Licensees doing business with the Western Bookstore was provided for information in Item 5.1(f).

**ITEMS FROM THE SENIOR POLICY AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

BG.22-17 **Senior Appointments**

Senior Appointments were reported to the Board for information in Item 5.2(a).

BG.22-18 **Board Skills Needs Assessment**

The Board skills needs assessment was provided for information in Item 5.2(b).

**ITEMS FROM THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

BG.22-19 **Western Office of the Ombudsperson Annual Report 2020-21**

The Western Office of the Ombudsperson Annual Report 2020-21 was provided for information in Item 5.3(a).

**ITEMS FROM THE MCINTOSH GALLERY COMMITTEE**

BG.22-20 **Deaccession of Six Portraits**

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The Deaccession of six portraits approved by the McIntosh Gallery Committee was provided for information in Item 5.5(a).

BG.22-21 **Deaccession of Portrait of Dr. Ellis Morrow**

The deaccession of one portrait approved by the McIntosh Gallery Committee was provided for information in Item 5.5(b).

**ITEM REFERRED BY SENATE**

BG.22-22 **Annual Report of the University Librarian**

The Annual Report of the University Librarian was provided for information in Item 5.6(a).

BG.22-23 **Report of the COU Academic Colleague**

The report of the COU Academic Colleague was provided for information in Item 5.6(b).

BG.22-24 **Academic Administrative Appointments**

Academic Administrative Appointments were provided for information in Item 5.6(c).

**BOARD APPROVAL (E-VOTE/TIME SENSITIVE)**

BG.22-25 **Renewal of Board Member Term**

The renewal of C. Rorabeck's term on the Board of Governors was provided for information in Item 5.7(a).

BG.22-26 **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

No items were removed from Consent.

BG.22-27 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

None noted.

BG.22-28 **OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was noted.

**ADJOURNMENT TO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**

The meeting adjourned to the confidential session at 11:21 a.m.

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R. Konrad  
Chair

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A. Bryson  
University Secretary