MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

JUNE 27, 2024 – OPEN SESSION

The meeting was held by Zoom.

PRESENT: Keith Gibbons, Chair
Amy Bryson, Secretary

Kenisha Arora
Cameron Bailey
Michelle Banik
Susan Bennett
Arzie Chant
Ethan Chen
Susan Clarke
Greg Dick
Ed Goehring
Lori Higgs
Marlene McGrath
Geoff Pollock
Stephen Poloz
Terry Rice
Cecil Rorabeck
Effie Sapuridis
Alan Shepard
Sarah Shortreed (Vice-Chair)
David Simmonds
Ken Yeung

Regrets: Lee Greenberg, Beth MacDougall-Shackleton, Kelly Meighen, Josh Morgan, Stephen Pitel

By Invitation: Karen Bertrand, Althea Blackburn-Evans, John Doerksen, Paul Eluchok, David Foster, Brent Fowles, Kathleena Henricus, Adele Huffman, Louise Koza, Lynn Logan, Jane O'Brien, Opiyo Oloya, Penny Pexman, Florentine Strzelczyk, Jane Toswell, Joel Welch, Caroline Whippey

Secretariat Resource: Bonnie Brown

Chair K. Gibbons called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

K. Gibbons began his welcoming remarks by introducing the incoming members of the Board - Kathleena Henricus, Joel Welch, George McAuley and Jane Toswell. He also acknowledged and thanked the outgoing members of the Board - Ethan Chen, Effie Sapuridis, Kenisha Arora, and Stephen Pitel - for their contributions to the Board.

K. Gibbons concluded his welcoming remarks by congratulating David Simmonds for receiving a Best Executive Award from the Globe and Mail's Report on Business; and recognizing Stephen Poloz on his appointment to the Order of Canada.

1.0 Land Acknowledgement

E. Sapuridis offered a land acknowledgement.

2.0 Approval of Agendas and Minutes

2.1 Adoption of Agenda – Open Session

Moved by K. Yeung, seconded by M. McGrath:

That the agenda for the open session be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

2.2 Approval of the Open Session Minutes of the Meeting of April 24, 2024

Moved by E. Sapuridis, seconded by G. Pollock:

That the open session minutes of the meeting of April 24, 2024 be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

2.3 Business Arising from the Minutes – None.

3.0 Report of the President

In addition to the written report provided in advance of the meeting, A. Shepard, President & Vice-Chancellor, highlighted several celebratory events and activities on campus including the spring convocation, summer conferences, the Ontario Games, and Pride Week.

A. Shepard acknowledged the contributions of the Communications team and noted they have received several national and regional awards in recognition of the quality, ingenuity, and impact of their work.

A. Shepard concluded his report by thanking the outgoing members of the Board and welcoming the incoming members of the Board. Special appreciation was extended to Chair K. Gibbons.

4.0 COMMITTEE AND SENATE REPORTS

4.1 REPORT OF THE FUND RAISING AND DONOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE

4.1(a) Telling the Western Story: Brand Update

A. Blackburn-Evans, Chief Communications Officer, provided an overview of Western Communications' progress in launching the new brand story as

well as the team's multi-channel effort to support the brand strategy to shift public perceptions of Western from 'party school' to 'research powerhouse'.

In building Western's research profile, A. Blackburn-Evans highlighted the media coverage, the Impact Project, the President's Public Engagement Strategy, and the new Western Alumni Magazine.

Throughout her presentation, A. Blackburn-Evans provided outcome data on several metrics that have been used to measure the impact of the new brand story.

Questions of clarification regarding the communications strategy were addressed by A. Blackburn Evans and A. Huffman, Executive Director (Brand Strategy & Integrated Marketing Communications).

4.2 REPORT OF THE PROPERTY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

4.2(a) Revisions to MAPP 2.25 – Internal Endowments

L. Logan, Vice-President (Operations & Finance), provided an overview of the proposed revisions to the MAPP Policy 2.25 – Internal Endowments.

Moved by G. Dick:

> That, on the recommendation of the Property and Finance Committee, the Board of Governors approve the amendments to MAPP 2.25 as outlined in item 4.2(a).

CARRIED

4.3 REPORT OF THE SENIOR POLICY AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

4.3(a) Staffing Report

J. O'Brien, Associate Vice-President (Human Resources), presented the new staffing report that was provided to the Board in advance of the meeting.

There was a suggestion that a future report include a gender breakdown by employee groups.

4.4 REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

4.4(a) Annual Report on Information Security

L. Higgs advised the annual report of the Working Group on Information Security was received by the Audit Committee in their role in providing

oversight for managing/mitigating risk. A summary of the content of the report was provided.

4.4(b) **Health, Safety & Well-Being Annual Report**

L. Higgs reported the annual report on Health, Safety & Well-Being was received by the Audit Committee. She noted the report includes information on identified areas of risk and how those are managed/mitigated.

L. Koza, Director (Health, Safety & Wellbeing), responded to questions of clarification regarding Ministry recommendations for reporting critical incidents, access to mental health supports, and access to defibrillators.

5.0 UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by G. Dick, seconded by S. Shortreed:

That the items listed in the consent agenda, except for items under 5.3(b), be approved or received for information by the Board of Governors by unanimous consent.

CARRIED

5.1 ITEMS FROM THE PROPERTY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

5.1(a) New Scholarships, Awards, and Prizes

A report on the terms of reference approved by the Property and Finance Committee for the new donor-funded scholarships, awards, and prizes was received for information.

5.1(b) 2023-2024 Operating Budget (Preliminary Year-End) as at April 30, 2024

A year-end update on the University's 2023-24 operating budget was received for information.

5.1(c) 2023-24 Ancillary Financial Report (Preliminary Year-End) as at April 30, 2024

The preliminary financial results for the 2023-2024 student fee-funded units, ancillaries, academic support units, and associated companies was received for information.

5.1(d) Semi-Annual Ratio Report on Non-Endowed Funds

The quarterly activity of the non-endowed funds and report on the ratio of

investments to obligations against the target ratio was received for information.

5.1(e) **Report of the Investment Committee**

An update on the activities of the Investment Committee, a subcommittee of the Property and Finance Committee, was received for information.

5.1(f) **Investment Committee Membership**

A report on the approval of the reappointment of Doug Greaves to the Investment Committee for a one-year term ending August 2025 was received for information.

5.1(g) **Dancap Private Equity Chair in Private Equity**

A report on the approval of the renaming of the Dancap Private Equity Chair in Change and Innovation to the Dancap Private Equity Chair in Private Equity in DAN Department of Management and Organizational Studies in the Faculty of Social Science was received for information.

5.1(h) **Dancap Private Equity Fellowship in Change and Innovation**

A report on the approval of the establishment of the Dancap Private Equity Fellowship in Change and Innovation in DAN Department of Management and Organizational Studies in the Faculty of Social Science was received for information.

5.1(i) **Hicks Morley Professorship in Labour and Employment Law**

A report on the approval that the existing Hicks Morley Professorship in International Labour Law established in 2017 at the Faculty of Law be renewed and renamed the Hicks Morley Professorship in Labour and Employment Law was received for information.

5.1(j) **Proposed Revisions to Distinguished University Professorships**

On the recommendation of the Property and Finance Committee, the Board of Governors approved, by unanimous consent, the amendments to Distinguished University Professorships as outlined in 5.1(j).

5.1(k) **Proposed Revisions to Faculty Scholars**

On the recommendation of the Property and Finance Committee the Board of Governors approved, by unanimous consent, the amendments to Faculty Scholars as outlined in 5.1(k).

5.1(l) **Amendment to the Supplemental Fee Schedule for the Leadership Under Fire Course**

On the recommendation of the Property and Finance Committee, the Board of Governors approved, by unanimous consent, an amendment to the Supplemental Fee Schedule to include a $500 program-related fee for the Leadership Under Fire Course.

5.1(m) **Revisions to MAPP 2.31 – Major Strategic Opportunities Fund**

On the recommendation of the Property and Finance Committee the Board of Governors approved, by unanimous consent, an amendment to MAPP 2.31 as outlined in item 5.1(m).

5.2 **ITEM FROM THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

5.2(a) **Western Retirement Plans Report**

The report on the Western Retirement Plans, presented to the Audit Committee, was received for information.

5.3 **ITEM FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

5.3(a) **Board Annual Work Plan for 2024-25**

The Board's Annual Work Plan for 2024-25 was received for information.

5.4 **ITEM FROM THE FUND RAISING AND DONOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

5.4(a) **Fund Raising Quarterly Report (Q4)**

The quarterly report on fund raising as at April 30, 2024 was received for information.

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

5.5(a) **University Discipline Appeals Committee (UDAC) Membership**

On the recommendation of the Senior Policy and Operations Committee, the Board of Governors acclaimed the following appointment to UDAC:

Pedro Marinho (Schulich) for the term July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

5.5(b) **Annual Report on the Code of Student Conduct**

The Annual Report on the Code of Student Conduct for the period from May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024 was received for information.

5.5(c) **Annual Report on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence**

The Annual Report on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence (GBSV) for the period from May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024 was received for information.

5.6 **ITEMS REFERRED BY SENATE**

5.6(a) **Report of the Academic Colleague**

The reports from the April and May meetings of the COU Academic Colleague were received for information.

5.6(b) **Academic Administrative Appointments**

A report on the academic administrative appointments as of May 2024 was provided for information.

5.6(c) **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Introduction of a Master of Climate Risk Assessment and Opportunity (MCR)**

On the recommendation of Senate, and conditional on approval by the Quality Council, the Board of Governors approved, by unanimous consent, that effective September 1, 2024, a Master of Climate Risk Assessment and Opportunity (MCR) be introduced, as shown in Item 5.6(c).

5.6(d) **New MAPP policy: Policy 7.17 – Establishment, Governance and Review of Core Research Facilities**

On the recommendation of Senate, the Board of Governors approved by unanimous consent the new MAPP 7.17 – Establishment, Governance and Review of Core Research Facilities policy, effective July 1, 2024, as shown in Item 5.6(d).

5.6(e) **Annual Report of the Vice-President (Research)**

The annual report of the Vice-President (Research) presented to Senate was received for information.

6.0 **ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

5.3(b) **Revisions to Committee Terms of Reference**

A Board member expressed his concern regarding the addition of the EDID statement to the Terms of Reference. There were no other questions or comments.

Moved by D. Simmonds, seconded by A. Chant:

> That, on the recommendation of the Governance and By-Laws Committee, the Board of Governors approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Governance and By-Laws Committee (Item 5.3(b)(i)), the Property and Finance Committee (Item 5.3(b)(ii)), the Audit Committee (Item 5.3(b)(iii)), and the Fund Raising and Donor Relations Committee (Item 5.3(b)(iv)).

CARRIED

7.0 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS FOR THE OPEN SESSION

In response to a question, K. Gibbons described the rationale for moving the meeting online.

8.0 OTHER BUSINESS

None.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

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K. Gibbons	A. Bryson
Chair	University Secretary