



BOARD OF GOVERNORS MINUTES

Friday, September 15, 2017, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Senate & Board Chamber, Waterloo Campus

Present: Jillian Swartz (Chair), Scott Bebenek, Tom Berczi, John Bowey, Michael Dell, Dave Jaworsky, David Johnson, Karl Kiefer, Lynda Kitamura, Adam Kovacs, Paul Kwasnik, Scott Lyons, Deb MacLatchy, Shaun Miller, Kristiina Montero, Bill Muirhead, Kelly Murumets, Connie Palenik, Patricia Polischuk, Michael Pryse, Stephanie Ratza, Joseph Small, Melanie Will

Regrets: Peter Ansley, Karljurgan Feuerherm, Angèle Hamel, Mark Harris, Jamie Martin, Eileen Mercier, Rob Noxon, Joe Rooney, Jessica Siegel, Paul Singh

Secretariat: Anne Lukin, Rebecca Wickens

A. Open Session

1. Call to Order

The Chair provided acknowledgement that the meeting took place on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples.

- a. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest: None
- b. Movement of Consent Items to the Main Agenda: None; approved/accepted as is.

2. Chair's Report, Jillian Swartz

Ms. Swartz noted that this is the first meeting of the Board since she took on the role of Board Chair. She highlighted that Dr. MacLatchy will be formally installed as President & Vice-Chancellor on Oct 27th and encouraged members to attend the ceremony. The Chair welcomed new Board members Adam Kovacs, Dr. Kristiina Montero and Connie Palenik. She thanked Board members for their service to Laurier; and noted that the meetings dates for 2017-2018 were provided with the agenda package. The 2017 Council of Chairs (CCOU) Conference of Ontario University Board Members is scheduled for November 16 and 17 in downtown Toronto; governors should contact the Secretariat office if interested in attending.

3. President's Report, Deb MacLatchy

The President noted a busy summer since she took office July 1st, working with her executive leadership team (ELT) and meeting with alumni leaders and donors. Town Halls held for faculty and staff in Brantford and Waterloo this week. The second round of Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA) is still being negotiated with the province.

4. **Q and A on Reports of the Senior Executives**

Board members received written reports of strategic activities within the various leadership portfolios.

5. **Milton Update**, Deborah Dubenofsky

Board members received a brief verbal update on progress to date on the Milton initiative, including useful feedback received from during two public information sessions for Senate and Board earlier in September. Following extensive discussion at their meeting yesterday, members of Senate overwhelmingly approved a Milton Academic Plan in principle as the basis for the future academic programming for the proposed Laurier site in Milton; noting that future Senate, Quality Council and government processes would be required for specific academic program approvals. Board members will have additional discussion on Milton during the *in camera* session of this meeting.

6. **Audited Financial Statements as of April 30, 2017**, Stephanie Ratza

a. Audited Financial Statements and Management Commentary to the Statements

A&C met jointly with the Finance & Investments committee and the external auditors from KPMG to review the Audited Financial Statements. Ms. Ratza noted that Laurier finished the 2016-2017 year with good financial results; and that the external auditors commented on the smooth audit process this year. **Motion**

(Stephanie Ratza/Bill Muirhead): That on the recommendation of the Audit & Compliance Committee, the Board of Governors approve the Wilfrid Laurier University Audited Financial Statements for the year ended April 30, 2017 and authorize any two members of the Board of Governors to sign the financial statements as evidence of such approval. Carried.

b. Management Report Budget vs Actual Results for the Year Ending April 30, 2017

The Board Chair commented on the enhanced level of detail and transparency of reporting provided by the commentary to the Financial Statements and the Management Report which the Board received as part of their agenda package; and thanked Mary Anne Banks and her team for their work. Ms. Banks highlighted that the attached reports reflect background details to assist the Board in their understanding of the statements. The Board discussed that Laurier performed well this past year but will be challenged by the new funding model and other budget constraints going forward.

7. **Governance Review Update**, Rebecca Wickens

In Spring 2017, a panel discussion was identified as a further step in the Governance Review, to assist in educating the Laurier community. Speakers are being identified to address various aspects of bicameral governance. The Secretariat staff are beginning to address other recommendations from the Report.

8. **Other Business:** None

B. *In Camera* Session

Motion (Tom Berczi/Shawn Miller): to move the meeting *in camera*. Carried.

C. Consent Items

The following items were approved/accepted by consent.

1. **Agenda**
2. **Minutes, Board of Governors, June 22, 2017**
3. **Summary of Approvals on Behalf of the Board**
4. **Credit Rating Update**
5. **Board & Committee Meeting Dates for 17-18**
6. **Invitation to Fall 2017 Convocation and President's Installation**