



BOARD OF GOVERNORS MINUTES

Friday September 13, 2019, 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Senate and Board Chambers, 75 University Avenue West (2nd floor), Waterloo Campus and SCJ210, SC Johnson Building, Brantford Campus

Present: Lynda Hawton Kitamura (Chair), Cameron Anderson, Scott Bebenek, Tom Berczi, Ryan Brejak, Mitchell Bergin, Mary-Louise Byrne, Michael Carroll, Savvas Chamberlain, Cody Groat, Leanne Hall, Mark Harris, Paul Kwasnik, Scott Lyons, Patricia McLaren, Deb MacLatchy, Shaun Miller, David Monod, Bill Muirhead, Connie Palenik, Jim Phillips, Patricia Polischuk, Stephanie Ratza, Joe Rooney, Mark Straub, Paulette Tremblay, Berry Vrbancovic, Klaudia Wojtanowski.

Regrets: Dave Jaworsky, Eileen Mercier, Karen Redman, Jillian Swartz.

Secretariat: Ana Juhik, Shannon Kelly, Anna Kornobis.

A. Open Session

1. Call to Order, Lynda Hawton Kitamura
Board Chair, Lynda Hawton Kitamura, acknowledged that the meeting was held on the Haldimand tract, the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples.

The Chair then asked to amend the agenda to go *in camera* first for one item before returning to the open portion.

Motion (Cody Groat/Mark Harris): to move the meeting *in camera*. Carried.

The open meeting resumed immediately following a brief *in camera* session.

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

Motion (Stephanie Ratza/Deb MacLatchy): that the Board of Governors approve the Consent items listed for approval under Item C.1. Carried.

2. **Chair's Report**, Lynda Hawton Kitamura
 - a. Welcome to Incoming Board Members
The Chair welcomed 8 new Board members and asked for the round of introductions so that returning and new members could get to know one another.

b. Round of Introductions

Board members were thanked for committing to a long day by attending the Board Retreat and especially those that have joined Governance Dinner the day before. Governance Dinner was a great opportunity to meet and network with Senators and hear from Alex Usher present on the postsecondary sector. The Chair also welcomed two new VPs including Jason Coolman, VP of Advancement and External Relations and Jonathan Newman, VP of Research.

Committee learned that Laurier will be celebrating their 20th campus anniversary this year at Homecoming in Brantford. Members were encouraged to attend and support the Laurier community and to attend upcoming Convocation in both Brantford and Waterloo.

3. **Leadership Update**

a. President's Report, Deb MacLatchy

In addition to a written report summarizing recent activity, the President commented on: budget process and the consultations held to eliminate structural deficit of \$18 million; development of government relations strategy and focus on building relationships with local MPPs and the new provincial ministers; increase in the number of incoming students; annual President's Town Hall on both Waterloo and Brantford campuses; update on the Dimensions pilot program; strategies to implement employee engagement survey results; opening of the Laurier Centre for Student Development and Global Leadership at the Beijing Concord College of Sino-Canada;

Committee discussed: \$18 million deficit and how it will be handled to have a balance budget in 3 years.

b. Q and A on Reports of the Senior Executives

There were no questions regarding the reports from the Senior Executives.

4. **Strategic Mandate Agreement Negotiations**, John Fraser / Martha Hook McGregor

An overview of SMA3 was provided including difference between SMA2 & SMA3 (e.g. targets tailored towards performance of each institution based on a formula), MTCU objectives and priority areas (e.g. skills and job outcomes), and institutional approach and timelines.

Committee discussed: metrics that Laurier needs to improve; if metrics are based on full time faculty; availability of incentives for overachieving; suitability of metrics and potential for change in the future.

5. **Board of Governors Fundraising**, Patricia Polischuk
Patricia Polischuk, chair of Development Committee, provided a brief verbal update on Board fundraising and the power of statement that shows 100% Board participation. She has thanked the Board members that have donated in the past and has encouraged members to support Laurier in any capacity they can.

6. **Reports from the Standing Committees of the Board**
 - a. **Audit & Compliance Committee**, Stephanie Ratza
Stephanie Ratza highlighted the discussions at Audit & Compliance Committee and provided an overview of Laurier's Audited Statements as well as the Press Statements.
 1. **WLU Audited Financial Statements and Management Commentary**
Committee discussed: strength of Laurier's credit rating and potential for its decline with upcoming government changes;
Motion (Bill Muirhead/Connie Palenik): 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, 2019 and authorize any two members of the Board of Governors to sign the financial statements as evidence of such approval. Carried.

 2. **Management Report Budget vs Actual Results for the Year Ending April 30, 2019**
Mary Anne Banks provided a quick overview of the management report containing budget vs actual results.

 3. **Unaudited Financial Statements of WLU Press**
Motion (Patricia Polischuk/Mary-Louise Byrne): On the recommendation of the Audit & Compliance Committee, the Board of Governors approve the unaudited Financial Statements for the Wilfrid Laurier University Press for the year ended April 30, 2019. Carried.

7. **Other Business:** None.

B. *In Camera* Session

Motion (Cameron Anderson/Bill Muirhead): to move the meeting *in camera*. Carried.

C. Consent Items

The following items were provided for approval or information. The Agenda and Minutes were approved by consent.

1. Items for Approval

- a. Agenda
- b. Minutes, Board of Governors, June 6, 2019

2. Items for Information

- a. DBRS 2019 Credit Rating Report and Media Release
- b. Board Membership 2019-2020
- c. 2019-2020 Committee and Board Dates
- d. Convocation Fall 2019 Invitation
- e. Appointments to Search Committees

Note: If you need assistance or have a question about these minutes or the Board of Governors, please contact the University Secretariat office, by email to alukin@wlu.ca or 519-884-0710 x4291.