



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

APRIL 24, 2024 – OPEN SESSION

The meeting was held at the Western Interdisciplinary Research Building, Room 3000 and on Zoom.

PRESENT: Keith Gibbons, Chair
Amy Bryson, Secretary

Kenisha Arora	Kelly Meighen
Cameron Bailey	Josh Morgan
Michelle Banik	Stephen Pitel
Susan Bennett	Geoff Pollock
Arzie Chant	Stephen Poloz
Ethan Chen	Cecil Rorabeck
Susan Clarke	Effie Sapuridis
Greg Dick	Alan Shepard
Ed Goehring	Sarah Shortreed (Vice-Chair)
Lee Greenberg	David Simmonds
Lori Higgs	Ken Yeung
Beth MacDougall-Shackleton	
Marlene McGrath	

Regrets: Terry Rice

By Invitation: Althea Blackburn-Evans, Bill Chantler, Ruban Chelladurai, John Doerksen, Paul Eluchok, Lynn Logan, Florentine Strzelczyk, Caroline Whippey

Secretariat Resource: Bonnie Brown

Chair K. Gibbons called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

1.0 **Land Acknowledgement**

K. Yeung offered a land acknowledgement.

K. Gibbons welcomed new Board member L. Greenberg to the meeting and recognized S. Poloz on his appointment by Prime Minister Trudeau to lead a working group focused on identifying ways to attract more investment into Canada.

K. Gibbons expressed his appreciation to those that have been working diligently to support the Western-Brescia integration.

2.0 **Approval of Agendas and Minutes**

2.1 **Adoption of Agenda – Open Session**

Moved by G. Pollock, seconded by M. Banik:

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

CARRIED

2.2 **Approval of the Open Session Minutes of the Meeting of February 1, 2024**

Moved by C. Rorabeck, seconded by S. Shortreed:

That the open session minutes of the meeting of February 1, 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, provided an update on the Brescia-Western integration and extended his appreciation to those involved in the process. Brescia students, staff, and faculty transitioning to Western were welcomed.

A. Shepard continued his report by noting admissions to Western for the fall are strong. He highlighted the various activities that have supported student decisions to attend Western.

A. Shepard concluded his report by commenting on the recent Federal budget that included funding for research and for graduate students. The advocacy efforts for improved funding were highlighted.

There were several questions addressed and comments made pertaining to graduate student funding and pay.

The administration responded to questions of clarification regarding the monitoring of the fire panels.

In responding to questions of clarification, A. Shepard advised on the search for a Dean (Faculty of Arts and Humanities) and described the research going on in Uganda in partnership with various universities and clinical centers.

4.0 **COMMITTEE AND SENATE REPORTS**

4.1 **REPORT OF THE PROPERTY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

4.1(a) **University Operating and Capital Budgets and Fees for 2024-2025**

On behalf of the Property and Finance Committee, G. Dick presented for approval Western's operating and capital budgets and tuition fees for 2024-25.

4.1(a)(i) **2024-2025 Operating and Capital Budgets**

F. Strzelczyk, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and L. Logan, Vice-President (Operations & Finance) presented the 2024-25 operating and capital budgets.

F. Strzelczyk began her presentation by providing an overview of the budget context. Priorities for this cycle and new major investments were outlined.

F. Strzelczyk continued her report by presenting the projected student enrolment and full-time faculty and staff complements budgeted for 2024-25. It was confirmed the numbers include the faculty and staff transitioning to Western from Brescia.

F. Strzelczyk provided information on the numbers of faculty and staff joining Western from Brescia and presented the projected operating budget impact of the Brescia integration over the next two years.

F. Strzelczyk concluded her report by providing a summary of the projected operating revenues and expenditures for 2024-25 and advised it was a balanced budget.

L. Logan described the major capital projects underway, those soon-to-start, those in the advanced planning phase, and those in other various planning stages. She noted the capital projects support Western's Long-Range Space Plan. L. Logan concluded her presentation by outlining the expenditures for the 2024-25 capital budget.

Administration responded to questions of clarification regarding the operational revenues, the ancillary budgets, the operating reserve balance, the international student enrolment projections, the commitments made to faculty hiring, and the impact of the projected decline in operating revenues on potential future capital transfers.

There was a suggestion the Board revisit and potentially raise the minimum reserve balance.

The financial stewardship demonstrated through the budget process was acknowledged.

Moved by G. Dick:

That the Board of Governors approve the 2024-25 University Operating and Capital Budgets (Item 4.1(a)(i)) and the proposed Program Specific Fees and Other Supplemental Fees for 2024-25 (Item 4.1(a)(ii)).

CARRIED

4.1(a)(ii) **2024-25 Program Specific Fees and Other Supplemental Fees**

Presented under item 4.1(a)(i).

4.1(a)(iii) **Student Fee Funded Units, Ancillaries, Academic Support Units and Associated Companies: 2024-25 Budgets**

On behalf of the Property and Finance Committee, G. Dick presented for approval the 2024-25 budgets for student fee funded units, ancillaries, academic support units and associated companies.

In response to a question, the Administration provided additional information on the changes to the health plan rates for the Society of Graduate Students.

Moved by G. Dick:

That the Board of Governors approve the 2024-25 budgets for Student Fee Funded Units, Ancillaries, and Academic Support Units, as shown in Item 4.1(a)(iii), Table 1,

And,

That the ancillary fees collected by the University will be as detailed in Item 4.1(a)(iii), Table 2 for full-time students and Table 3 for part-time students as supported by the Student Services Committee.

CARRIED

4.1(a)(iv) **Annual Report and Recommendations of the Student Services Committee**

The annual report of the Student Services Committee regarding full-time student activity fee rates was received for information.

4.1(b) **Bill S-211 – Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act**

L. Logan and E. Mallory, Associate Vice-President (Financial Services) presented, for approval, the draft 2024 public report submission that was prepared in compliance with the requirements of Bill S-211. Also presented for approval was the granting of authority to the President & Vice-Chancellor to attest to the report and approve any editorial changes required to the draft prior to submission.

Moved by G. Dick:

That, on the recommendation of the Property and Finance Committee, the Board of Governors approve the Draft 2024 Public Report submission to comply with Bill S-211; and

Grant the President and Vice-Chancellor the authority to attest to the report and approve, on behalf of the Board of Governors, any editorial changes required to the Draft 2024 Public Report prior to submission.

CARRIED

4.1(c) **Revisions to MAPP 2.8 – Procurement and Materials Services**

L. Logan presented for approval amendments to MAPP 2.8 – Procurement and Materials Services and the corresponding amendments to the Resolution re: Delegation of Authority. The rationale for the proposed amendments was outlined.

E. Mallory advised procurement rules are subject to the Broader Public Sector Act and to the Building Ontario Businesses Initiative Act. He reported MAPP 2.8 is compliant with these Acts.

The administration responded to a question of clarification regarding the increased limits of authority by describing the internal and external environmental scans that were completed to support these new limits.

Moved by G. Dick:

That on the recommendation of the Property and Finance Committee, the Board of Governors approved amendments to MAPP 2.8, and a corresponding amendment to the Resolution re: Delegation of Authority, as outlined in item 4.1(c).

CARRIED

4.2 **REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

4.2(a) **Revision to By-Law No. 1**

D. Simmonds presented for approval a minor amendment to By-Law No. 1 under Section 9.

Moved by D. Simmonds:

That, on the recommendation of the Governance and By-Laws Committee, the Board of Governors approve the amendment to *By-Law No. 1* as outlined in item 4.2(a).

CARRIED

4.2(b) **Governance of McIntosh Gallery**

D. Simmonds presented, for approval, the dissolution of the McIntosh Gallery standing committee of the Board.

D. Simmonds referred to the materials provided in advance of the meeting noting the review completed of the governance structure of the McIntosh Gallery and the assessment completed of the Board's obligations under the Will of Wilhelmina Morris McIntosh.

Moved by D. Simmonds:

That on the recommendation of the Governance and By-Laws Committee, the Board of Governors approve the dissolution of the McIntosh Gallery Committee with the understanding that the governance of the McIntosh Gallery will be overseen by the Provost along with an advisory committee.

CARRIED

4.3 **REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

4.3(a) **Campus Safety and Emergency Services 2023 Annual Report**

L. Higgs presented, for information, the Campus Safety and Emergency Services annual report that was presented to the Audit Committee at their last meeting.

There were no questions.

5.0 **UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by M. Banik, seconded by A. Chant:

That the items listed in the consent agenda, with the exception of items 5.4(b) and 5.4(f), 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**

The 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) **Standard and Poor's (S&P) Credit Rating Report**

The annual Standard and Poor's Credit Rating report for Western University was received for information.

5.2 **ITEMS FROM THE FUND RAISING AND DONOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

5.2(a) **Fund Raising Quarterly Report (Q3)**

The quarterly report on fund raising as at January 31, 2024 was received for information.

5.2(b) **Naming Opportunities**

A report advising the Board of Governors on the naming and retirement of various rooms approved by the Naming Sub-Committee of the Fund Raising and Donor Relations Committee was received for information.

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

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

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

For the term July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025: Chris Sherrin (faculty) to the role of Chair; Dana Broberg (graduate student); Cara Davidson (graduate student); Grace Achonu-Johnson (undergraduate student); Stephen Warner (undergraduate student)

For the term July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027: Mi Song Kim (faculty) and Ken Kirkwood (faculty)

5.3(b) **McIntosh Gallery Committee Appointment**

A report advising the Board on the appointment of Catherine Elliot Shaw, by the Senior Policy and Operations Committee, as a member-at-large to the McIntosh Gallery Committee was received for information.

5.4 **ITEMS REFERRED BY SENATE**

5.4(a) **Subcommittee on Enrolment Planning and Policy (SUEPP) Report**

The annual report on targets and processes for first-year undergraduate enrolment and overall enrolment projections for Western and its Affiliated University Colleges was received for information.

5.4(c) **Vice-Provost's Annual Report on Faculty Recruitment and Retention**

The annual report on faculty recruitment and retention was received for information.

5.4(d) **Report of the Subcommittee on Teaching Awards (SUTA): Recipients of Western's Excellence in Teaching Awards for 2023-24**

A report listing the recipients of Western's Excellence in Teaching Awards for 2023-24 was received for information.

5.4(e) **Advice re: 2024-25 University Operating and Capital Budgets**

A report advising the Board of Governors on Senate's review of Western's operating and capital budgets for 2024-25 and their recommendation for approval was received for information.

5.4(g) **Honorary Degree Recipients – Spring 2024**

A report listing the Honorary Degree recipients and the Spring 2024 convocation ceremonies at which they were awarded their degree was received for information.

6.0 **ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

5.4(b) **Faculty of Health Sciences: Approval for the Creation of a New School Named the Brescia School of Food and Nutritional Sciences**

J. Garland, Dean (Faculty of Health Sciences), joined the meeting.

There was a suggestion that there be a consistent approach or policy to guide decisions regarding the naming of Programs, Schools, and Departments.

Moved by S. Clarke, seconded by L. Higgs:

That, on the recommendation of Senate, the Board of Governors approve the creation of a new School in the Faculty of Health Sciences named the Brescia School of Food and Nutritional Sciences, effective May 1, 2024, conditional on the closing of the merger as contemplated in the MOA between Western University and Brescia University College approved January 10, 2024.

CARRIED

J. Garland left the meeting.

5.4(f) **Introduction of Master of Teaching and Learning**

D. Kotsopoulos, Dean (Faculty of Education), joined the meeting.

In response to a question regarding the transition from the Bachelor of Education degree to the new Master of Teaching and Learning degree, D. Kotsopoulos described the next steps in the program approval process.

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

That, on the recommendation of Senate, and conditional on the approval by the Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance, the Board of Governors approve that effective September 1, 2024, a Master of Teaching and Learning (MTL) be introduced as shown in Item 5.4(f).

CARRIED

D. Kotsopoulos left the meeting.

7.0 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS FOR THE OPEN SESSION**

None.

8.0 **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

9.0 **ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION**

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

K. Gibbons
Chair

A. Bryson
University Secretary