Board of Governors REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

September 27, 2011

TO: Board of Governors

FROM: Amit Chakma

DATE: September 26, 2011

SUBJECT: President's Report to the Board: June 2011

I'm pleased to provide the following update on key developments and achievements since the last meeting of the Board on June 15, 2011:

1. **Collective bargaining update:** At the time of writing this report, the University and UWOFA-LA (Librarians and Archivists) had reached a tentative agreement for a new four-year contract, pending ratification by the Board and union membership. The 51 members of UWOFA-LA, whose last contract ended June 30, had been on strike since September 8. On behalf of the Board and senior administrative team, I wish to thank all members of our campus community for their patience and understanding during the work stoppage. Collective bargaining is also underway to renew contracts with CUPE Food Services (CUPE Local 2692), Operating Engineers (IUOE Local 772), and UWO Police Association. As well, negotiations are underway to reach a first contract with Postdoctoral Associates (PSAC Local 611).

2. **Student enrolment exceeds targets:** As we projected in June, Western has welcomed an entering class of 5,100 for the 2011-12 academic year. This compares to last year's entering class of 4,750, and exceeds our initial 4,800 target by 300 students. The increase was realized despite 600 fewer admission offers having been made to qualified students compared to the number of offers made last year. As a result of the higher-than-anticipated acceptance rate, Western's minimum entrance grade has risen from 81% to 82% compared to last year, and the overall average entering grade has risen from 87% to 88%. We are also welcoming more than 300 first-year international undergraduate students, exceeding our projected target of 250. These figures all reflect Western's growing reputation as a destination of choice for high-quality students from across Ontario, Canada and abroad.

3. **Rise in international rankings**: Western has risen from 164th position overall to 157th in the annual *QS World University Rankings*. The QS Rankings are based on six inputs: 1) Academic Reputation (weighted 40%); 2) Employer Reputation (weighted 10%); 3) Citations per Faculty Member (weighted 20%); 4) Faculty/Student Ratio (weighted 20%); 5) Proportion of International Faculty (5%); and Proportion of International Students (weighted 5%). Our analysis indicates Western improved this year over last in the "Employer Reputation" and "International Faculty" categories, while remaining relatively flat in the other categories. We continue to perform very well in the "Citations per Faculty" category, while we have the most room for improvement in the areas of Academic Reputation and International Students.

4. **Welcome to new Deans:** During the summer months, Western officially welcomed four new Deans to campus in preparation for the 2011-12 academic year. Dr. Vicki Schwean joins us from the University of Calgary as Dean of Education; Dr. Charmaine Dean joins us from Simon Fraser University as Dean of Science; Dr. Betty Anne Younker joins us from the University of Michigan as Dean of the Don Wright Faculty of Music; and, W. Iain Scott, the former CEO of McCarthy Tetrault LLP, joins us as Dean of Law. Decanal Selection Committees are now fully engaged for the Faculty of Information & Media Studies, where the first term of Dean Tom Carmichael concludes June 30, 2012, and the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, where the term of Acting Dean Michael Milde also concludes June 30, 2012.

5. **Medicine at Western celebrates 130 years:** As one of Western's founding Faculties, the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry is celebrating its 130th anniversary by welcoming it largest class of first-year medical students (171) and by marking a mile-stone year at its Windsor campus with a total of 130 students now being taught in all four years of the School's undergraduate medicine program. The School also recently announced the creation of a new research chair in surgical innovation thanks to a $1.5M donation from Western/Huron alumnus Ray Elliott and his wife Margaret. The new chair, to be endowed with an additional $1.5M in funding from Western's matched chair giving program, will focus on the development of new surgical devices and procedures while promoting interdisciplinary research between the Schulich School, the Ivey Business School, and the Faculties of Engineering and Health Sciences.

6. **Vanier scholarship news:** In August, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced that six Western doctoral candidates were among the recipients of Canada's most prestigious graduate scholarship program—the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships. Ahmed Hamada (engineering/philosophy), Katie Kryski (clinical psychology), Donald Lafreniere (geography), Matthew Quinn (medical biophysics), Fabrice Szabo (French), and Jodie Whelan (business administration) will each receive $50,000 annually for up to three years in recognition of their demonstrated leadership skills and high standard of scholarly achievement.

New partnership promotes student entrepreneurs: In September, Western launched its formal academic partnership with "The Next 36" Entrepreneurial Leadership Initiative by hosting 50 of the University's top undergraduate students at an information session held at Gibbons Lodge. Co-founded by Ivey alumnus Tim Hodgson, Claudia Hepburn, and University of Toronto business professors Ajay Agrawal and Reza Satchu, The Next 36 aims to develop the entrepreneurial aspirations and skills of Canada's most promising undergraduates from a wide range of academic disciplines. Last year, five Western students were named among the first class of The Next 36, winning spots from a pool of 300 applicants at 15 Canadian institutions. In partnership with the Universities of Toronto, Waterloo and McGill, Western is working to raise awareness of the program

ACTIVITIES OF THE PRESIDENT
(June 18, 2011 – September 16, 2011)

June	18	London	Bangladeshi UWO Community Picnic
	20	London	Columbia International College Agreement Signing and Photos
			Senior Administration BBQ (Gibbons)
	21	London	London Economic Development Council (LEDC) Strategic Review Meeting
			Coaches Appreciation Dinner
	23	London	Board of Governors
	24	Toronto	Global Business Forum Panelist
	28	London	LEDC AGM and Monthly Meeting
			Dr. Stephen McClatchie (Principal, Huron)
			Student Financial Assistance Working Group Teleconference
			Foundation Western Board & Committee Reception (Gibbons)
July	25	London	Center for Brain & Mind Grand Opening
	26	London	Mayor Joe Fontana, Jeff Fielding (City of London)
	27	Toronto	Mr. Pat Horgan (VP Manufacturing), Mr. Jay Carfagnini (Partner), Goodmans LLP
			Mitch Baran Reception
August	3	London	Phone Call with Dr. Patrick Deane (President, McMaster)
	5	London	Andrew Lockie, Paul Seed (United Way)
	6	London	Mr. Zhang Xiaodon and Ms. Tianmei Den
	8	London	Mike Strong

			Tanvir Hassan
			Phone Call with Paul Davidson (AUCC)
	10	London	Lunch with Joe Preston (MP Elgin Middlesex London)
	11	London	OCE (Ontario Centres of Excellence) Nominating Committee Teleconference
			Lunch with David and Marilyn Conklin (Gibbons)
			Ed Holder (MP London West)
			Phone Call with Bruce Ross (President IBM Canada)
	15	London	Campus Visit with Bob Hamilton (Western's Deputy Minister Champion)
	16	London	Roundtable on Immigration with Citizenship & Immigration Canada
			Christine Elliott (MPP Whitby Oshawa)
	17	London	Jeff Fielding (City of London)
	19	London	U-15 Teleconference
			Lunch with John Thompson (UK)
	29	London	Susan Truppe (MP London North Centre)
		Grand Bend	Deans' Retreat
	30	Grand Bend	Deans' Retreat
	31	London	BASICS Leadership Course
September	1	London	Fall Perspectives on Teaching Conference
			Teleconference with Research Ontario Expert Advisory Panel
	2	Toronto	KCI Consultants
	5	London	Western Mustang Football Game

	6	London	Opening Ceremonies for O Week
	7	London	Mr. Howard Thompson (Senior VP, TD Canada Trust)
			WUSC (World University Service of Canada) Teleconference
			Continuing Studies 10th Anniversary Event
	8	London	Campus Visit with Premier Dalton McGuinty
			Rogers TV Interview
			John Dirks, Sheila Robinson (Gairdner Foundation)
			Philosophy Department Meeting
	9	Kitchener	Research Institute for Aging
			Telephone Call with Helen Kerr (Hahn Smith Designs)
	12	London	LEDC Board Meeting
			Lunch with Ed Holder
	13	London	Fred Longstaffe
			Senior Alumni Program
			UWOFA Executive
			Campus Council
			Senate Orientation
			The Next 36 Event (Gibbons)
	14	Toronto	Chancellor John Thompson
			Mr. Don Forgeron (President & CEO, Insurance Bureau of Canada)
	15	Toronto	Lunch with Bonnie Patterson (COU)
			OCE Nominating Committee and Board of Directors Meetings

	16	Ottawa	Mr. Derek Hudson Burney (Senior Strategic Advisor, Ogilvy Renault)
			Mr. Jeff Westeinde (CEO), Mr. John Westeinde (President), Westeinde Group
			Mr. Stephen Assaly (Richmond Hts. Properties Inc.)

7. among students and faculty, and to encourage more top students to apply.